

Soviets to help Iraqi nuclear project

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq's atomic power commission Wednesday signed an agreement under which the Soviet Union will help in planning a nuclear power plant in Iraq, the Iraqi News Agency said. The agency said the Soviet Union would assist in initial studies to identify a suitable site for a nuclear plant, but gave no other details. It quoted sources at the commission as saying the project was part of a programme to meet Iraq's electricity needs and the commission's development of nuclear technology for peaceful purposes. An experimental reactor being built near Baghdad with French help was destroyed in an Israeli air raid in 1981. The Israelis claimed the plant would help Iraq develop nuclear weapons.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جوردان تيمز تليجراف سياسي من المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية "الرأي"

Iraq calls for Arab meeting on war

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq Wednesday called for a meeting of Arab foreign ministers in Baghdad next week to discuss "the threat to the Arab World from Iranian aggression." The Iraqi News Agency said Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz made the plea in a note to visiting Arab League Secretary-General Chadi Klibi. Noting Iraq's earlier request for its 41-month-old war with Iran to be included on the agenda of a twice-postponed Arab summit and the recent escalation in fighting on the southern battlefield, he said: "It has become very urgent to call on the Arab League Council to convene an extraordinary meeting of foreign ministers to deal with the grave situation which threatens the whole Arab region." "We call for this meeting to be held in Baghdad as soon as possible, and propose Tuesday, March 13 as the date for its convening."

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British ship hit in Iraqi raid on Kharg

LONDON (R) — A British ship, the 19,210-ton bulk carrier Charming, was damaged by Iraqi air raids in the Gulf last week, the ship's managers said Wednesday. It was the third civilian vessel which shipping companies around the world have reported hit by Iraq's March 1 air raid on an Iranian convoy near Iran's Kharg Island. Iraq said that it had sunk seven ships. Allseas International Management Limited, managers of the Charming, said that an Iranian navy vessel which took the damaged ship in tow was subsequently hit as well, forcing it to abandon the tow. Shipowners in Bombay and Ankara have reported that the Indian freighter APJ Ambika, 16,600 tons, was hit the same day and the Turkish Sema-G, 9,096 tons, was sunk with the loss of two lives.

Papal envoys meet Gemayel

BEIRUT (AP) — Pope John Paul II's three-member special delegation to Lebanon and Syria conferred with Lebanese President Amin Gemayel Wednesday in the first part of a peace mission here, state radio and church sources said. Roman Catholic sources in Beirut described the one-hour meeting as "an informative reunion" designed to underline the Vatican's hopes for "true, peace and reconstruction in Lebanon. State radio said the Vatican delegation headed by Archbishop Mario Bricl handed Mr. Gemayel a personal message from the pontiff who was described by church officials as "deeply worried" over events in Lebanon.

Arafat thanks Italy

TUNIS (AP) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat has thanked the Italian contingent to the multi-national peacekeeping force in Beirut for having helped protect Palestinians during its mission in the Lebanese capital, the PLO news agency Wafa reported. It said the message was sent to the Italian government on Tuesday following a visit to PLO headquarters here by Italian diplomat Gianfranco Farinelli.

U.S. journalist feared kidnapped

BEIRUT (R) — A senior American television journalist disappeared in Beirut Wednesday and a spokeswoman for his office said it was feared he had been kidnapped. The spokeswoman said Jeremy Levin, Beirut bureau chief for Cable News Network (CNN), had failed to arrive at his office more than eight hours after his wife left him at home Wednesday morning.

Israeli minister to visit Cairo

CAIRO (AP) — Israeli Trade Minister Gideon Palt will arrive in Cairo on Friday to attend the opening of the annual international trade fair, Israeli embassy officials said Wednesday. Mr. Palt will be the second cabinet member to visit Egypt since bilateral relations, established under the 1979 treaty, cooled over the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in June 1982.

King hopes pact abrogation will help open new era for Lebanon

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein said Wednesday that Jordan had never supported the Israeli-Lebanese troop withdrawal pact of May 17 and hopes that its abrogation by the Beirut government last Monday would open the way for a new era in Lebanon.

King Hussein, speaking at a television programme entitled "Our Issues," said Jordan had considered the May 17 agreement a separate peace treaty between Lebanon and Israel.

King Hussein, who was speaking to editors of local Arabic-language newspapers, said that in his recent visit to the United States he made it clear to the Reagan administration that the Lebanese conflict was only a consequence of the Palestine problem which required urgent solution.

He said he also made it clear that the U.S. was actually behind Israel's presence in the Arab lands because it supplies it with financial, political, and moral support. He urged the U.S. to rise to

the status of a superpower and bring peace to the region.

"This is an election year in the United States and it is difficult for American leaders to take action, but we must not forget 1956, also an election year, when the American president ordered Israel to withdraw its forces from Sinai," King Hussein said.

In reply to a question on the position of Democratic presidential hopeful Senator Gary Hart towards the issue vis-a-vis Walter Mondale, who is well known for his support for Israel, King Hussein said: "It is difficult to judge now. We must wait and see the developments in the future."

Asked to comment on the com-



ing parliamentary elections in the East Bank, King Hussein said that they are to be held to fill vacant seats in the Lower House of Parliament. "The elections should be held to save us a constitutional problem that might arise with the death of more deputies creating a vacuum in parliament," he said.

Referring to the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue on joint moves in Middle East peace efforts which was resumed last

month, the King said that he and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat discussed in detail the threats both Jordanians and Palestinian face.

The Zionist movement, claiming that the Palestinian problem is confined to the people only and not the land Israel occupies, has occupied the whole of Palestine, the King said. Israel is also occupying other Arab territories, part of which belongs to Lebanon, the King pointed out.

He said that during his recent talks with Mr. Arafat in Amman, Jordan and the PLO did not agree on any specific formula or peace plan to solve the Palestinian problem. But, he said, basic agreement has been reached between Jordan and the PLO to continue efforts for liberating the occupied lands and saving the Palestinian people there.

Asked whether joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegations will be assigned to Arab and European countries to secure backing for Middle East peace efforts, the King said no such moves are planned at the present. But he did not

rule out the possibility of sending such delegations in the future.

In addition to its declared settlement and Judaisation policies, Israel is now planning to "resettle" Palestinian refugees living in West Bank camps to the Jordan Valley as part of its plans to evict them out of their homeland, the King said.

On the Gulf war and its effects on the region the King said: "Iraq is still firm in its position and capable to repel aggression. We hope that Iran will realise that there is no point of continuing the war. We need good relations with Iran and we hope it will respond favourably to peace bids and follow Iraq's example."

"However, we believe that the continuation of the war is directed against the interests of the Arab Nation. The war would not have lasted so long had the Arab Nation been united behind Iraq."

Full text of the King's interview will be published in Saturday's Jordan Times.

Jordan hails Iraq victories

BAGHDAD (Petra) — Minister of Labour Tayseer Abdul Jabbar Wednesday hailed the victories of the Iraqi armed forces over the Iranian forces in the Gulf war.

Speaking at a meeting with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein Dr. Abdul Jabbar said that the Iraqi victories "have given credibility to Iraq's power and restored to the Arab Nation its self-confidence in confronting the Israeli enemy who now occupies Jerusalem and practises arbitrary measures against the Arab people in the occupied lands."

The minister was making the speech on behalf of Arab ministers of labour, and representatives of labour unions and organisations in the Arab World who were holding an Arab labour conference in the Iraqi capital.

Arab ministers and other representatives were present at Wednesday's meeting with the Iraqi president.

Dr. Abdul Jabbar paid tribute to Iraq, which he said, had hosted the conference despite its involvement in the war. "The fact that the conference was held in Baghdad is an evident support for Iraq by all Arab states, and an expression of confidence that the Iraqi armed forces will come out victorious against the Iranian enemies," Dr. Abdul Jabbar added.

Dr. Abdul Jabbar is in Baghdad leading the Jordanian delegation to the Arab labour conference. The delegation includes representatives of the Amman Chamber of Industry and Jordanian labour union movements.

On Tuesday, Dr. Abdul Jabbar addressed the conference and reiterated Jordan's pledge to work towards Arab solidarity (See story on page 2).

Moscow assails American moves in Arabian Gulf

MOSCOW (AP) — The Soviet Union on Wednesday accused the United States of "grossly violating" international law by moving ships and planes to the Arabian Gulf and said it does not recognise the "restrictions" on air and sea traffic "arbitrarily established" by American forces in the area.

"The actions taken by the United States on America in the Gulf are creating a grave threat to peace and international security," the TASS news agency said in an official statement.

"Dozens of U.S. warships have been massed" in the Gulf and "the U.S. air force is constantly flying patrol missions" there, TASS said. The agency dismissed U.S. statements that American ships and planes had been sent to the Gulf only to protect shipping and to ensure safe passage for civilian ships and aircraft despite the fighting raging in the Iran-Iraq war in the area.

The United States has "arbitrarily established" a safe shipping zone and in doing so is "grossly violating" international law, TASS said.

"Washington would like to dictate its will to the countries of the region," it added.

The United States actions are not only absolutely contrary to law. They affect in the most substantial way the interests of a large number of states using aerial and shipping routes in the Gulf area. Moreover, they can do major material damage to them and endanger the lives of their citizens."

The presence of U.S. armed forces in the region is "provoking a conflict situation," TASS said.

Ashdod blast kills 3

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — A bomb ripped through a bus in the Mediterranean port of Ashdod Wednesday killing three Israelis, while police in Jerusalem said Jewish extremists had confessed to shooting at an Arab bus and attempting to blow up the Al Aqsa Mosque.

Police set up roadblocks outside Ashdod city and detained 150 Arabs for questioning about the blast, which wounded eight other people.

It was the most serious bombing in Israel since a blast on a Jerusalem bus last December killed six Israelis and wounded 44.

In Damascus, the Abu Nidal Palestinian group claimed responsibility for Wednesday's blast. The bomb, hidden under one of the seats, exploded at 9 a.m. as the red-and-white bus brought shoppers from an outdoor market to Ashdod's central bus station.

In Damascus, the Syrian-backed Palestinian faction headed by Sabri Al Banna, better known as Abu Nidal, claimed responsibility for the bus bombing. It said the attack "comes in the framework of escalating armed struggle in the occupied territories."

In Jerusalem, Reuters quoted police sources as saying seven suspects arrested Tuesday had admitted shooting at an Arab bus in the occupied West Bank and trying to blow up Jerusalem's Al Aqsa Mosque, one of Islam's holiest shrines.

The arrests capped police investigation into attacks on Muslim and Christian sites in Jerusalem and the West Bank. Police said the arrests were a breakthrough and more were expected.

Lebanese leaders agree to attend peace talks

BEIRUT (R) — All Lebanese factional leaders invited to reconciliation talks in Switzerland next week have agreed to attend, government and opposition sources said Wednesday.

Opposition sources said the four main opposition leaders had decided to take part in the conference starting in Lausanne on Monday, and the two major rightist factional leaders publicly announced their decision Wednesday.

However, word that all parties would attend the talks, to map out a new political blueprint for Lebanon and end one decade of civil war, came amid continued sporadic fighting between the rival factions in many parts of Beirut and the surrounding mountains.

Lebanese-born Saudi mediator Rafiq Al Hariri flew in during the day to try and organise a genuine ceasefire.

He was expected to summon a meeting of a four-party security committee set up last year to arrange and supervise a ceasefire on all battlefronts. The committee has not met for several weeks.

The opposition leaders who have agreed to attend the talks are Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) leader Walid Junblatt, Christian ex-President Suleiman Franjeh and Sunni Muslim ex-Premier Rashid Karamei who head the Syrian-backed "National Salvation Front," and their Shiite Muslim ally Nabih Berri.

Christian leaders Pierre Gemayel, head of the right-wing Falangist Party, and ex-President Camille Chamoun, leader of the National Liberal Party, said they had agreed on a united stand at the conference.

"We are embarking on a move

that we hope will culminate in saving Lebanon," Mr. Gemayel said. "Serious discussions will eventually lead to understanding among all Lebanese."

Mr. Chamoun, who earlier said he would refuse to attend after the government's abrogation of Monday of its troop withdrawal agreement with Israel, said the Christian leaders had prepared a list of 30 topics for discussion.

The other two leaders invited are moderate Muslim politicians Saeb Salam, a former Sunni Muslim prime minister, and former parliament Speaker Adel Ossiran, a Shiite.

Official sources said they had also agreed to attend the talks, which will be chaired by Maronite Christian President Amio Gemayel.

Well-informed sources said the talks were expected to last only two days but could be prolonged.

Diplomatic sources said the establishment of a solid ceasefire in and around Beirut was an essential pre-condition for the success of the conference but negotiations on obtaining formal agreement from all the warring groups were going slowly.

The sources added that the resignation of the Syrian cabinet announced in Damascus Tuesday night added a note of uncertainty to the talks, which Syrian and Saudi Arabia are to attend as observers.

The presence or absence in Lausanne of Abdul Halim Khaddam, Syrian foreign minister for the past four years with special responsibility for Lebanon, could be crucial, the diplomatic sources said.

Mr. Khaddam had the experience and authority to hold the Lebanese opposition leaders in

check and the possibility that he might be absent cast uncertainty over the way the conference might develop, the sources added.

According to caretaker Prime Minister Abdul Rauf Al Kasbi, the new Syrian cabinet will only be named a few days time. There has been no announcement of who will represent Syria at Lausanne.

Beirut move 'disappoints' U.S. official

TEL AVIV (AP) — U.S. Secretary of Labour Raymond Donovan said Wednesday that the United States was "extremely disappointed" by Lebanon's abrogation of its U.S.-sponsored accord with Israel.

Speaking at a news conference, Mr. Donovan referred to his meeting Tuesday with Israeli Premier Yitzhak Shamir where he said the breaking of the agreement announced Monday by Lebanese President Amin Gemayel's government had been discussed briefly.

"Obviously we are extremely disappointed, to say the least. We were part of that treaty. The responsibility lies on those who abrogated it to come up with something to replace it," he said without elaborating.

Mr. Donovan published a joint statement with Israeli Labour Minister Aharon Uzan, pledging increased co-operation in exchanging ideas and information on vocational training and urban renewal projects.

The visiting U.S. official is in Israel on a six-day visit until Saturday.

Mr. Donovan said his meeting with Mr. Shamir centred on negotiations underway for a free trade zone between the two countries.

Pact abrogation signals failure of U.S. policy, page 4

Shamir accuses Egypt of reneging on Camp David

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir Wednesday accused Egypt of reneging on its 1979 Camp David treaty with Israel.

He also charged in parliament that the Egyptian press was publishing anti-Israeli and anti-Semitic propaganda.

The prime minister, replying to a question, said Cairo was following a deliberate policy of freezing normalisation of relations and was retreating from the Camp David framework.

Egypt withdrew its ambassador to Tel Aviv following Israel's invasion of Lebanon in the summer of 1982 and has virtually frozen all trade, culture and tourism ties with the Jewish state.

Mr. Shamir said that Egypt apparently had no intention of returning its ambassador and ac-

used it of breaking a promise to the U.S. that the ambassador would be reinstated when Israel signed a troop withdrawal agreement with Lebanon.

The withdrawal accord, signed in May last year, was abrogated by the Lebanese government on Monday.

Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamel Hassan Ali expressed understanding of the Lebanese decision Tuesday.

Mr. Shamir said, "the behaviour of the government of Egypt undermines the credibility of agreements and commitments that it has taken upon itself in the past, as well as the credibility of agreements that it or any other country in the region might take upon itself in the future."

Italy re-affirms continued role in Sinai force, page 2

Levy rules out quick Lebanon withdrawal

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Chief-of-Staff Lieutenant-General Moshe Levy said Wednesday that Israel could not withdraw from Lebanon in the near future because of "security" reasons, Israel Radio said.

The radio, reporting on a closed-door meeting of a parliament's foreign affairs and security committee, quoted Mr. Levy

as saying "security problems" on Israel's northern border "necessitated" a continued Israeli presence in Lebanon. His comments came amid reports that the government of Yitzhak Shamir was about to decide whether to redeploy its troops in South Lebanon in an effort to reduce attacks against Israeli soldiers there. (Israel studies redeployment options, page 2)

Swiss police foil Air France hijack

GENEVA (Agencies) — Disguised Swiss police Wednesday arrested a hijacker aboard an Air France Boeing-737 and released all passengers and crew unharm-

ed. The man, described by passengers as around 30 and Middle Eastern in appearance, hijacked the airliner on an early morning flight from Frankfurt to Paris and demanded to be flown to Tripoli in Libya.

The plane, carrying 62 passengers and six crew, landed in Geneva, where Swiss officials negotiated with him by radio from

the control tower via Pilot Claude Naget.

Seven passengers, six women and so ailing man, were released during the morning, while the hijacker demanded that the airliner be refuelled and take off for Tripoli.

He was overpowered just after lunchtime by Swiss police taking refreshments on board, a Swiss government spokeswoman said.

Shortly afterwards the remaining passengers and crew left the aircraft. Airport officials said the hijacker was armed with a knife.

A Geneva police spokesman said the hijacker was grabbed from behind by two policemen dressed as catering workers as he sat in the co-pilot's seat. He put up little resistance and was captured unhurt.

The spokesman said the man, in his mid-30s, was undergoing interrogation, but his nationality was unclear. He had pretended he had explosives in a bag, which was later found to contain only a knife, the spokesman added.

A police spokesman said the man's motives were not immediately clear. "We are continuing to question him."

Kohl says little time left for U.S.-Soviet summit talks

WASHINGTON (R) — West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl says this year's U.S. presidential elections mean there is little time for an early summit between President Reagan and Soviet leader Konstantin Chernenko.

Dr. Kohl said before leaving Washington Tuesday he believed Mr. Reagan could convince Mr. Chernenko at a meeting "of the need to be ready for peace and co-operation."

He said Mr. Reagan probably could not hold a summit when his re-election campaign began in earnest, implying that it would either have to come soon or wait until after the Nov. 6 elections.

Dr. Kohl said it was clear Mr. Chernenko was interested in a dialogue but further efforts were needed to convince Moscow that East-West co-operation was in its own interest.

But Mr. Reagan repeated after his meeting with Dr. Kohl Tuesday that a summit should be held only if it promised fruitful results.

Kohl defends German arms sales to Saudi Arabia, page 2

Syria to form new cabinet

DAMASCUS (R) — A new Syrian cabinet is expected to be formed within the next few days and diplomatic sources here said they expected no change in government policy on major foreign and domestic issues.

The 37-member cabinet resigned Wednesday and President Hafez Al Assad asked Prime Minister Abdul Rauf Al Kasbi to form a new government.

But the sources said the move did not come as a surprise.

Speculation that a shake-up of the four-year-old cabinet was imminent mounted during the president's two-month illness last year, and the sources said it appeared Mr. Assad now wanted to share his burden with a vice-president.

Syrian officials, however, said the post of vice-president could only be a titular one, noting Mahmoud Ayoubi, who held the pos-

ition in 1979, took no active part in policy-making.

The diplomatic sources noted Syria's cabinet does not instigate policy, normally following out-lines mapped out by the regional command of the ruling Baath Socialist Party, Syria's highest decision-making body.

The outgoing government formed in 1980 and reshuffled slightly in 1981, had been the longest-serving government in recent Syrian history.

The caretaker prime minister told Reuters the formation of a new cabinet was a routine matter and was needed to fill posts left vacant by the death of four ministers.

The diplomatic sources said they expected key ministers like veteran Foreign Minister Abdul Halim Khaddam to retain the post he held since 1970.

Hart scores third straight win over Mondale

MONTPELIER, Vermont (R) — Top aides to Democratic presidential contender Gary Hart said Wednesday that he should sweep to victory in state non-election contests next week after his lopsided victory over Walter Mondale in Vermont Tuesday.

"He now represents a far more significant threat to an incumbent president than does former Vice President Walter Mondale," said Oliver "Pudge" Henckel, Mr. Hart's campaign chief.

Mr. Hart took 71 per cent of the vote in Vermont's non-binding presidential preference primary compared with 20 per cent for Mr. Mondale.

President Reagan ran unopposed on the Republican side. "If I were in the White House tonight, I would be very concerned about the Hart campaign," Mr. Henckel said.

Mr. Mondale, campaigning in Florida, played down the significance of the Vermont result. But his key adviser, Richard Moe, said: "We took a licking and we're not making any excuses."

Mr. Henckel said Mr. Mondale's attempts to pass off Vermont as a state in which he made little effort "flies in the face of reality."

Mr. Henckel predicted the sweep of northern New England that began in New Hampshire on Feb. 28 would help Mr. Hart to victory in the nine states holding ballots on so-called "super Tuesday" next week.

Mr. Hart next faces Mr. Mondale on Saturday in Wyoming, where he is expected to win because of his strength in the west.

Hart to challenge Soviets in eliminating world hunger, page 8

The third Democrat to campaign in Vermont, black civil rights leader Jesse Jackson, took only eight per cent of the vote, a showing which jeopardises his eligibility for federal campaign funds.

Democratic Senator John Glenn was not on Vermont's ballot and former Senator George McGovern drew less than one per cent.

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BAGHDAD (Petra) — Jordan will continue to work for Arab solidarity and joint Arab work, Minister of Labour Tayseer Abdul Jaber said.

ferences and the other activities of the ILO in Asia as a member. The minister affirmed that Jordan will co-operate with Arab and friendly countries to obstruct the implementation of the decision, which he said, is "a reward, for the aggressive Israelis who occupy Arab lands and practise organised terror against the citizens of these countries."

Dr. Abdul Jabber then talked about the obstacles Israel is placing before the Arab trade unions in the occupied territories to prevent them from performing their work efficiently and recalled the critical acts against the mayors.

"Israel", Dr. Abdul Jabber said, "has closed the shops, spoiled the plants, imprisoned a lot of people and shot at children, women, and the aged people in order to force them to leave their land, adding that such measures "are to no avail."

Dr. Abdul Jabber denounced the

th S. Arabia

decades because of the abuses of Jews during the Hitler era.

Mr. Kohl said he disagreed with Israel and American Jews that Saudi Arabia, because of its financial support for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), poses a danger to Israel.

He said: "There is a great threat to the war between Iran and Iraq will expand, a war that is getting more and more irrational.

"We take this decision fully aware that we want to make a contribution towards peace and not a contribution towards war."

Portfolio Ariel Sharon escaped injury when a small roadside bomb blew up beside a convoy in which he was travelling through the South Lebanese port of Sidon Tuesday. Mr. Sharon, a former defence minister, was on a tour of Israel's Awali River defence line.

Military sources say the army has submitted all its South Lebanon policy options to the government, which must decide on Israel's next move.

A senior official said the option included evacuating some areas and reducing the number of Israeli troops.



criminal act against the Jordanian embassy in Tripoli, which he said, was engineered by the Libyan regime.

He lauded Iraq's stand vis-a-vis the Arab causes, particularly the Palestinian question and called on Arabs to stand by Iraq in its just war against Iran.

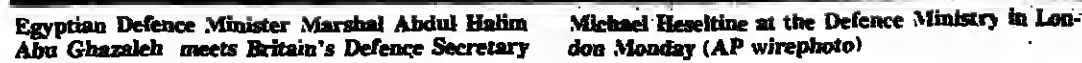
Concluding his speech, Dr. Abdul Jabbar voiced his hope that life in Lebanon would return to normal to restore its former role in the Arab World.

LONDON (AP) — Egyptian Defence Minister Abdul Halim Abu Ghazaleh Tuesday made brief courtesy calls on Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe and Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

No details of the meetings were disclosed.

Marshal Abu Ghazaleh arrived here Monday on an official visit, mainly as the guest of Defence Minister Michael Heseltine. He has also seen British arms procurement officials and is visiting British military installations.

There was no indication, however, whether any arms sales contracts would be announced during his visit, which ends Thursday.



KHARTOUM (R) — President Reagan has promised to airlift arms to Sudan and warned other countries not to interfere there, according to President Jaafar Numeiri.

The U.S. State Department on Monday denied a previous claim by Sudanese Vice President Omer Mohammad Alayeb that Washington had decided to send the arms. But it said it was reviewing a Sudanese request for the weapons.

The official Sudan News Agency (SUNA) quoted Mr. Numeiri as saying Tuesday that U.S. special envoy Vernon Walters had given him a message of support from Mr. Reagan. "President Reagan has promised to send the weapons by air to Sudan," he was quoted as saying.

SUNA said Mr. Numeiri and Mr. Walters had discussed attacks by secessionist rebels in southern Sudan and Khartoum's request for weapons.

According to SUNA, Mr. Reagan's message said: "It would be a

mistake for others to attempt to exploit Sudan's difficulties. We are aware of external support being given dissident elements and consider it unacceptable interference in Sudanese affairs."

Sudan has often accused Libya and Ethiopia of supporting the rebels, though they have denied it.

Rebel attacks on foreign workers in southern Sudan have prompted a U.S. company, Chevron, to suspend oil exploration there.

SUNA quoted Mr. Reagan's message as saying: "We share your concern and grief over the recent attacks in southern Sudan. An American was injured and one of our leading companies has had to curtail its operations temporarily."

Moreover, as friends of Sudan we are distressed that our important work helping your people develop Sudan's potential is being interrupted," the message said.

It added: "Our support remains firm. We want to be helpful during this difficult period, and we look forward to a return of security and

GENEVA (R) — U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar said in a report Tuesday that human rights violations were continuing in Iran and called on Tehran to admit his representative to investigate the situation.

The secretary general's report submitted to the 43-member United Nations Commission on Human Rights, cited allegations of summary executions, torture of political prisoners and religious persecution in Iran.

He said that in the four years since the commission first examined Iran "there is no clear evidence that the situation has improved," but Tehran had consistently refused to admit his representative to make an on the spot investigation.

"The position taken by the gov-

CAIRO (AP) — Libyan Leader Col. Muammar Qadhafi says Israel has a grand design against the Arabs including seizure of water resources, fragmentation of Lebanon and Syria, reconquest of Egypt's Sinai and the grabbing of Arab oil fields with U.S. backing.

Col. Qadhafi made the charge in an interview published Wednesday in the weekly newspaper

It was Col. Qadhafi's first interview with an Egyptian publication since 1977 when Egypt made overtures for peace with Israel culminating in the 1979 treaty.

The newspaper quoted Col. Qadhafi as advocating a "new order" in the Arab World based

TV & RADIO

WHAT'S GOING ON

FOR THE TRAVELLER

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

<div>JORDAN TELEVISION</div> <div>MAIN CHANNEL</div> <div>16:30 Koran</div> <div>16:45 Cartoons</div> <div>17:10 Cartoons</div> <div>17:30 Children's Programmes</div> <div>18:00 Children's Programmes</div> <div>18:50 Programmes Review</div> <div>19:00 Local Competition Programmes</div> <div>20:00 News in Arabic</div> <div>21:00 Arabic Series</div> <div>21:30 Arabic Play</div> <div>22:00 News in Arabic</div> <div>23:10 Play Contd.</div> <div>FOREIGN CHANNEL</div> <div>18:00 French Programme</div> <div>19:00 News in French</div> <div>19:30 News in Hebrew</div> <div>20:00 Comedy: Benson</div> <div>21:00 Towards 2000</div> <div>21:10 Drama: St. Elsewhere</div> <div>22:00 News in English</div> <div>22:15 Feature Film: Case of the Pol- litture Girls</div> <div>RADIO JORDAN</div> <div>855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM</div> <div>& partly on 9560 KHz, SW</div> <div>07:00 Light Music</div> <div>07:30 Newsweek</div> <div>08:00 Morning Show</div> <div>09:00 News Summary</div> <div>10:00 Morning Show</div> <div>11:00 Pop Session</div> <div>12:00 News Summary</div> <div>12:30 News Summary</div> <div>13:00 Pop Session</div> <div>14:00 News Bulletin</div> <div>14:10 Instruments</div> <div>14:30 Just A Minute</div> <div>15:00 Concert Hour</div> <div>16:00 News Summary</div> <div>16:30 Old Favorites</div> <div>17:00 Special Feature</div> <div>17:30 Pop Session</div> <div>18:00 News Summary</div> <div>18:30 Good Old Days</div> <div>19:00 Newsweek</div> <div>19:30 Date with a Star</div> <div>20:00 Evening Show</div> <div>21:00 News Summary</div> <div>21:30 Evening Show</div> <div>22:00 News Summary</div> <div>22:30 Evening Show</div> <div>23:00 News Summary</div> <div>23:30 Close Down</div>	<div>BBC WORLD SERVICE</div> <div>639, 720, 1413 KHz</div> <div>06:00 Newsweek 06:30 Classical Record Review 06:45 Financial Review 06:55 World News: 24 Hours News Summary 07:30 News Summary 07:45 Network 08:00 Newsweek 08:30 Nature 08:45 Newsweek 09:00 The World Today 09:30 Newsweek 09:45 Network 10:00 World News 10:15 Ref- lections 10:15 Mr. Know-All 10:30 John Peel 11:00 World News 11:05 British Press Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial News 11:40 Look Ahead 11:45 Edward Eggar: The Mak- ing of a Composer 12:15 Monitor 12:30 You Minister 12:30 World News: News in British 12:45 News Ideas 12:55 The Week to Watch 13:30 Assignment 14:00 Radio Newsweek 14:15 Top Two- ty 14:45 Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:05 24 Hours News Summary 15:30 Network 11:K, 15:45 The Plea- sure's Yours 16:30 Discovery 17:00 Radio Newsweek 17:15 Outlook 18:00 World News 18:05 Commentary 18:15 Assignment 18:45 The World Today 18:50 World News 19:05 News in Y.W.C.A. 19:15 41793 The Week in Wales 19:45 Sports Round-up 20:00 Newsweek 20:30 The Comedian 21:00 Outlook: News Sum- mary 21:40 Stock Market Report: Look Ahead 21:45 Report on the Week World News 22:05 24 Hours: News Summary 22:30 A Jolly Good Show 22:15 Ulster Newsletter 22:30 In the Meatline 22:30 Business Matters 24:00 World News 08:00 The World Today 08:25 The Week in Wales 08:30 Finan- cial News 08:40 Reflections 08:45 Sports Round-up 08:50 World News: Commentary 08:55 Merchant Navy Programme 09:30 Meridian VOICE OF AMERICA MW 1260, SW 7200, 9565, 11740, 11925 & 15210 KHz 06:00 VOA Morning: News on the hour; news summaries; business report, science and medicine; sports reports; VOA editorial news and U.S. opin- ion roundups; analysis, viewpoints, features 17:10 News 17:30 Special Eng- lish News and Features 18:00 News 18:15 News 18:30 Music USA 19:00 News 19:15 Newsline 19:30 Spe- cial English News and Features 20:00 News 20:10 Focus 20:30 Now Music USA 21:00 Newsline 21:30 Magazine</div>	<div>TODAY'S EVENTS</div> <div>EXHIBITIONS</div> <div>* Turkish handicrafts, paintings, copper work and glassware exhibition at the San Rock Hotel.</div> <div>* "Multiple" an Italian exhibition in the Royal Cultural Centre at 6:00 p.m.</div> <div>LECTURE</div> <div>* "Les Villes Mortes de la Syrie du Nord", by Georges Tate at the French Cultural Centre at 6:00 p.m.</div> <div>CULTURAL CENTRES</div> <div>Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267</div> <div>American Centre 64371</div> <div>American Centre Library 41520</div> <div>British Council 36147-8</div> <div>French Cultural Centre 37009</div> <div>Geometric Institute 41993</div> <div>Soviet Cultural Centre 24049</div> <div>Spanish Cultural Centre 39777</div> <div>Hays Art Centre 665195</div> <div>Hebrew Youth City 667181</div> <div>Y.W.C.A. 41793</div> <div>Y.W.M.A. 664251</div> <div>Amman Municipal Library 36111</div> <div>University of Jordan Lib. 643555</div> <div>MUSEUMS</div> <div>Feldman Museum: Jewellery and cos- tumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.</div> <div>Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays.</div> <div>Jordan National Gallery: Contains a col- lection of paintings, ceramics, and scul- ptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Arab countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Munizah, Jabal Luweibdi. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.</div>	<div>AMMAN AIRPORT</div> <div>This information is supplied by Airia in- formation department (the Queen El- izabeth International Airport) tel. (08) 53250, where it should always be verified.</div> <div>ARRIVALS</div> <div>07:05 Cairo (MS)</div> <div>07:05 Aqaba (RJ)</div> <div>07:10 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)</div> <div>07:15 Jeddah (RJ)</div> <div>07:45 Dhahran (RJ)</div> <div>07:45 Kuwait (RJ)</div> <div>07:45 Cairo (RJ)</div> <div>10:00 Damascus (RJ)</div> <div>10:00 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)</div> <div>10:25 Laraca (RJ)</div> <div>10:40 Riyadh (Saudi)</div> <div>14:30 Tripoli, Laraca (LN)</div> <div>14:40 Kuwait (KU)</div> <div>15:00 Cairo (RJ)</div> <div>15:00 Baghdad (IA)</div> <div>15:50 Istanbul, Ankara (TA)</div> <div>15:55 London (RJ)</div> <div>17:05 Aqaba (RJ)</div> <div>17:05 Athens (RJ)</div> <div>17:15 New York, Vienna (RJ)</div> <div>18:10 Amsterdam (KLM)</div> <div>18:30 Cairo (RJ)</div> <div>00:30 Cairo (RJ)</div> <div>00:30 Baghdad (RJ)</div> <div>00:50 Muscat, Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Bah- rain (GF)</div> <div>DEPARTURES</div> <div>05:45 Cairo (RJ)</div> <div>06:30 Damascus (RJ)</div> <div>06:40 Damascus, Frankfurt (LH)</div> <div>07:00 Aqaba (RJ)</div> <div>07:00 Damascus, Paris (AF)</div> <div>06:30 Cairo (MS)</div> <div>10:00 Damascus, Athens, Geneva, (SR)</div> <div>11:45 Athens (RJ)</div> <div>11:45 Vienna, New York (RJ)</div> <div>11:45 Laraca (CY)</div> <div>11:30 Cairo (RJ)</div> <div>11:45 Frankfurt, Brussels (RJ)</div> <div>12:40 Paris, London (RJ)</div> <div>12:45 Riyadh, Dhahran (Saudi)</div> <div>14:30 Cairo (RJ)</div> <div>15:00 Aqaba (RJ)</div> <div>15:30 Laraca, Tripoli (LN)</div> <div>15:40 Kuwait (RJ)</div> <div>15:40 Baghdad (IA)</div> <div>16:30 London (RJ)</div> <div>16:50 Ankara, Istanbul (TA)</div> <div>19:30 Kuwait, Dhahran (RJ)</div> <div>19:40 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)</div>	<div>19:50 Abu Dhabi (RJ)</div> <div>20:00 Baghdad (RJ)</div> <div>20:30 Cairo (RJ)</div> <div>01:45 Bahrain, Abu Dhabi (GF)</div> <div>MARITIME TRAFFIC</div> <div>Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba port on 1/11/1984:</div> <div>* Nikolay Gogol</div> <div>* Noyay Donbas</div> <div>* Saadi Luck</div> <div>* Mo Faraji</div> <div>* Nicol</div> <div>* Arabella</div> <div>Amin Kassar and Sons Company, Tel. 23234 (six lines) at your service.</div> <div>MONEY EXCHANGE</div> <div>Local sell/buy rates in fms</div> <div>Belgian franc 70/37</div> <div>Gold guinea 127/55</div> <div>Egyptian guinea 313/31</div> <div>French franc 46/55</div> <div>Irish d. 21/1</div> <div>Italian lire (for 100) 231/3</div> <div>Japanese yen (for 100) 164/165</div> <div>Kuwaiti dinar 1253/3</div> <div>Lebanese lira 67/11</div> <div>Costa Rican 105/4</div> <div>Qatari riyal 100/107</div> <div>Saudi riyal 103/9</div> <div>Swedish crown 48/2</div> <div>Swiss franc 173/174</div> <div>Syrian lira 53/54</div> <div>U.K. sterling pound 99/1</div> <div>U.S. dollar 364/366</div> <div>W. German mark 143/9</div> <div>WEATHER</div> <div>Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.</div> <div>It will be cloudy in partly cloudy, with occasional moderate winds. Probably there will be scattered showers in Aqaba, it will be partly cloudy with nor- therly winds and seas calm.</div> <div>Low/high temperature in deg. C</div> <div>Amman 5/18</div> <div>October 11/24</div> <div>Jordan Valley 10/23</div> <div>Yesterday's high temperatures:</div> <div>Amman 16, Aqaba 24. Humidity read- ings: Amman 43 per cent, Aqaba 45 per cent.</div>	<div>EMERGENCIES</div> <div>193, 75111</div> <div>Fire, fire, police 199</div> <div>Blood bank 75121</div> <div>Civil Defence rescue 63613-3</div> <div>Fire headquarters 22090-3</div> <div>Police rescue 192, 21111, 37777</div> <div>Police headquarters 39141</div> <div>Traffic police 56390-1</div> <div>Electric Power Co. 36181-3</div> <div>Municipal water service 71125-8</div> <div>Queen Alia Int. Airport (08) 53333</div> <div>HOSPITALS</div> <div>Hussein Medical Centre - 813813-32</div> <div>Khalid Maternity, J. Amman - 42484</div> <div>Abdullah Maternity, J. Amman - 42444</div> <div>Jabal Amman Maternity 62362</div> <div>Malhas, Amman 36140</div> <div>Palestine, Shmeizani 664171-4</div> <div>Shmeizani Hospital 669131</div> <div>University Hospital 845545</div> <div>De Al-Sheik, J. Hussein 667158</div> <div>Al-Munster Hospital 667277-9</div> <div>The Islamic, Abdali 665292</div> <div>Al-Anli, Abdali 664164</div> <div>Jordan, Al-Madina 7701-3</div> <div>Al-Basir, J. Amman 75111</div> <div>Army, Marka 91611</div> <div>GENERAL</div> <div>Jordan Television 73111</div> <div>Radio Jordan 73111</div> <div>Jordan Post Office 42311</div> <div>Hotel complaints 666412</div> <div>Price complaints 661176</div> <div>Telephone: Information 12 Jordan and Middle East calls 10 Overseas calls 17 Cable or telegram 18 Repair service 11</div> <div>NIGHT DUTY</div> <div>AMMAN: Dr. Abdul Qader Lalla 96046</div> <div>MARKET PRICES</div> <div>Uppermost price in fms per kg.</div> <div>Apple 350/300</div> <div>Banana 280/240</div> <div>Banana (Mukammar) 240/210</div> <div>Beans 540/480</div> <div>Cabbage 60/40</div> <div>Carrot 140/100</div> <div>Cauliflower (white) 70/50</div> <div>Onion (dry) 350/300</div> <div>Onion (large) 250/200</div> <div>Cucumber (small) 360/300</div> <div>Dates 180/150</div> <div>Eggplant (large) 180/150</div> <div>Eggplant (small) 200/160</div> <div>Pepper (hot green) 400/300</div> <div>Garlic 360/300</div> <div>Grapes (white) 700/600</div> <div>Grapes (black) 700/600</div> <div>Grapefruit 130/100</div> <div>Guava 400/300</div> <div>Lemon 130/100</div> <div>Orange 250/200</div> <div>Marrow (small) 380/340</div> <div>Mandarin 320/200</div> <div>Olives 350/280</div> <div>Olive (dry) 170/140</div> <div>Okra 150/100</div> <div>Oranges (Abn Sarra) 270/230</div> <div>Oranges (Shammasi) 220/180</div> <div>Pears 500/400</div> <div>Pineapple 440/390</div> <div>Pepper (hot green) 760/680</div> <div>Potatoes 190/150</div> <div>Tangerine 240/200</div>
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<div>FOR FRIDAY</div> <div>JORDAN TELEVISION</div> <div>MAIN CHANNEL</div> <div>16:00 Koran</div> <div>16:30 Cartoons</div> <div>16:45 Cartoons</div> <div>17:10 Children's Programmes</div> <div>17:30 Children's Programmes</div> <div>18:00 Children's Programmes</div> <div>18:50 Programmes Review</div> <div>19:00 Local Competition Programmes</div> <div>20:00 News in Arabic</div> <div>21:00 Arabic Series</div> <div>21:30 Arabic Play</div> <div>22:00 News in Arabic</div> <div>23:10 Play Contd.</div> <div>FOREIGN CHANNEL</div> <div>18:00 French Programme (feature film)</div> <div>19:00 News in French</div> <div>19:30 News in Hebrew</div> <div>20:00 Tales of the Unexpected</div> <div>21:15 Crown Court</div> <div>22:00 News in English</div> <div>22:15 Resigning Steele</div> <div>RADIO JORDAN</div> <div>855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM</div> <div>& partly on 9560 KHz, SW</div> <div>07:00 Light Music</div>	<div>19:30 Religion Programme</div> <div>20:00 News in Arabic</div> <div>20:30 Local Programme</div> <div>21:00 Arabic Series</div> <div>22:00 TV Magazine</div> <div>23:00 News Summary</div> <div>FOREIGN CHANNEL</div> <div>18:00 French Programme (feature film)</div> <div>19:00 News in French</div> <div>19:30 News in Hebrew</div> <div>20:00 Tales of the Unexpected</div> <div>21:15 Crown Court</div> <div>22:00 News in English</div> <div>22:15 Resigning Steele</div> <div>RADIO JORDAN</div> <div>855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM</div> <div>& partly on 9560 KHz, SW</div> <div>07:00 Light Music</div>	<div>19:30 Newsweek</div> <div>20:00 Morning Show</div> <div>21:00 Old Movie</div> <div>21:30 Children's Show</div> <div>21:55 News Summary</div> <div>22:00 News Summary</div> <div>22:30 Listeners' Choice</div> <div>22:45 News Summary</div> <div>23:00 News Summary</div> <div>23:30 Pop Session</div> <div>23:45 News Bulletin</div> <div>14:10 Jordan Weekly</div> <div>14:30 Music</div> <div>15:00 Concert Hour</div> <div>15:30 News Summary</div> <div>16:00 Instruments</div> <div>16:30 Old Favorites</div> <div>16:45 Pop Music</div> <div>17:00 News Summary</div> <div>17:30 Top Twenty</div> <div>17:50 News</div> <div>18:30 Date with a Star</div> <div>20:00 Science Fiction</div>	<div>20:30 In Concert</div> <div>21:00 News Summary</div> <div>21:30 Old Movie</div> <div>21:55 Children's Show</div> <div>22:00 News Summary</div> <div>22:30 Arabians Nights</div> <div>22:45 Over a Cup of Tea</div> <div>23:00 News Summary</div> <div>23:30 Jazz Hour</div> <div>23:45 News Headlines</div> <div>BBC WORLD SERVICE</div> <div>639, 720, 1413 KHz</div> <div>06:00 Newsweek 06:30 Country Style Review 06:45 Financial Review 06:55 World News: 24 Hours News Summary 07:30 News Summary 07:45 Network 08:00 Newsweek 08:30 Nature 08:45 Newsweek 09:00 The World Today 09:30 Newsweek 09:45 Network 10:00 World News 10:15 Ref- lections 10:15 Mr. Know-All 10:30 John Peel 11:00 World News 11:05 British Press Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial News 11:40 Look Ahead 11:45 Edward Eggar: The Mak- ing of a Composer 12:15 Monitor 12:30 You Minister 12:30 World News: News in British 12:45 News Ideas 12:55 The Week to Watch 13:30 Assignment 14:00 Radio Newsweek 14:15 Top Two- ty 14:45 Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:05 24 Hours News Summary 15:30 Network 11:K, 15:45 The Plea- sure's Yours 16:30 Discovery 17:00 Radio Newsweek 17:15 Outlook 18:00 World News 18:05 Commentary 18:15 Assignment 18:45 The World Today 18:50 World News 19:05 News in Y.W.C.A. 19:15 41793 The Week in Wales 19:45 Sports Round-up 20:00 Newsweek 20:30 The Comedian 21:00 Outlook: News Sum- mary 21:40 Stock Market Report: Look Ahead 21:45 Report on the Week World News 22:05 24 Hours: News Summary 22:30 A Jolly Good Show 22:15 Ulster Newsletter 22:30 In the Meatline 22:30 Business Matters 24:00 World News 08:00 The World Today 08:25 The Week in Wales 08:30 Finan- cial News 08:40 Reflections 08:45 Sports Round-up 08:50 World News: Commentary 08:55 Merchant Navy Programme 09:30 Meridian</div>	<div>20:30 Rock the Clock</div> <div>06:00 Merchant Navy Programme 16:00</div> <div>World News 16:05 Reflections 16:25</div> <div>Report 16:30 World News 16:35 About</div> <div>11:00 World News 11:05 British Press</div> <div>Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30</div> <div>Financial News 11:40 Look Ahead</div> <div>11:45 About Time 12:15 Merchant</div> <div>Navies Programme 12:30 Business Mat- ters 12:40 World News 12:45 News</div> <div>about Britain 12:15 In the Meantime</div> <div>12:30 Ulster Newsletter 12:45 News in the Meantime 12:55 The Week to Watch</div> <div>14:00 Radio Newsweek 14:15 Top Two- ty 14:45 Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:05 24 Hours: News Summary</div> <div>15:30 Radio Theatre 16:15</div> <div>Letterbox 16:30 John Peel 17:00 Radio Newsweek 17:15 Outlook 18:00 World News 18:05 Commentary 18:15 Assign- ment 18:45 The World Today 18:50</div> <div>World News 19:05 Sarah and Company</div> <div>19:40 Book Choice 19:45 Sports</div>	<div>Round-up 20:00 Newsweek 20:30 Edw- ard Eggar: The Making of a Composer</div> <div>21:00 Outlook 21:30 Stock Market Report 16:30 World News 16:35 About</div> <div>Britain 22:00 World News 22:05 24 Hours: News Summary 22:30 Sherlock Holmes 23:00 Network 11:K, 23:15 Music Now 23:45 Mr. Know-All 24:00 World News 08:00 The World Today 08:25 Book Choice 08:40 Reflections 08:45 Sports Round-up 08:50 World News: Commentary 08:55 The Weeklies 09:30 The Overcrowded Airwaves</div>	<div>09:00 Aqaba (RJ)</div> <div>09:15 Abu Dhabi (RJ)</div> <div>09:45 Dhahran, Kuwait (RJ)</div> <div>09:50 Cairo (RJ)</div> <div>09:50 Cairo (RJ)</div> <div>10:00 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)</div> <div>12:30 Muscat, Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Doha (GF)</div> <div>14:00 Kuwait (KU)</div> <div>15:00 Jeddah (Saudi)</div> <div>15:00 Dhahran (RJ)</div> <div>17:00 Brumma, Frankfurt (RJ)</div> <div>17:15 New York, Vienna (RJ)</div> <div>17:30 London, Paris (RJ)</div> <div>17:45 Cairo (MS)</div> <div>20:20 Athens (OA)</div> <div>20:20 London (OA)</div> <div>00:45 Kuwait (RJ)</div> <div>01:05 Cairo (MS)</div> <div>ARRIVALS</div> <div>07:05 Cairo (MS)</div> <div>07:05 Cairo (RJ)</div>	<div>06:30 Beirut, Amsterdam (KLM)</div> <div>07:00 Aqaba (RJ)</div> <div>07:05 Cairo (MS)</div> <div>11:00 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)</div> <div>12:00 Athens, Copenhagen (RJ)</div> <div>13:00 Vienna, Chicago, Los Angeles (RJ)</div> <div>13:30 Cairo (MS)</div> <div>14:15 Geneva, Frankfurt (RJ)</div> <div>15:00 Istanbul, Bahrain (RJ)</div> <div>15:30 Doha, Dubai, Muscat (GF)</div> <div>15:40 Kuwait (RJ)</div> <div>16:00 Jeddah (SJ)</div> <div>16:30 Kuwait, Abu Dhabi (RJ)</div> <div>16:40 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)</div> <div>16:40 Jeddah (RJ)</div> <div>20:05 Cairo (MS)</div> <div>20:15 Baghdad (RJ)</div> <div>20:30 Dubai, Kuwait (RJ)</div> <div>20:30 Cairo (MS)</div> <div>01:05 London (RJ)</div> <div>DEPARTURES</div> <div>07:05 Cairo (RJ)</div>
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Durra to head JTV

AMMAN (J.T.) — The cabinet Wednesday appointed Memir Al Durra as Jordan Television director-general to succeed Mohammad Kamal who served as director since 1966.

Mr. Durra, who will assume his post as of Saturday March 10, has been the director of the prime minister's office since 1979 and had earlier served as secretary-general of the Royal Court and as an attaché in several Jordanian embassies abroad.

Mr. Kamal was presented with Jordan's Al Kawkab Medal of the First Order by King Hussein in recognition of his services at an audience at the Royal Court last Saturday.

Hussein visits army HQ

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein, the supreme commander of the Jordanian Armed Forces, Wednesday paid a visit to the army headquarters where he was received by Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces Lieutenant-General Sharif Zaid. Ibn Shaker, Chief of Staff Fathi Abu Taleb and high ranking officers.

The King met Sharif Zaid for some time and discussed with him a number of issues pertaining to the armed forces.



Whisky thieves caught

AMMAN (J.T.) — A gang of thieves who stole 24 cartons of whisky have been caught and sent for trial, according to a report in Al Dustour Arabic newspaper Tuesday.

It said that the Amman police were tipped off about the group by a shop owner whom the offenders had approached to purchase the stolen merchandise.

The shop owner said that the group had offered the whisky at a very cheap price which made him suspicious so he alerted the police who laid a trap to apprehend the

group. The robbers were persuaded to bring the whisky to the shop in the expectation of being paid by its owner.

The police then arrested the men and a subsequent interrogation revealed that the goods were stolen.

Investigations revealed that one of the group had been employed by a store which imported spirits. He thus had access to the warehouses from which he stole the 296 bottles contained in the cartons, the paper said.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Saudi defence chief tours Jordan Valley

AMMAN (Petra) — Director of the Saudi Arabian Civil Defence Department, Major-General Hasem Abdul Rahman, Wednesday visited civil defence centres in the northern Jordan Valley regions and Jerash. He also toured archaeological sites at Umm Qais, and Jerash. Maj.-Gen. Abdul Rahman was accompanied on the tour by his delegation and senior Jordanian civil defence officials.

Archaeology display to open on March 25

AMMAN (J.T.) — The British Institute for Archaeology and History here will open an exhibition of work it has sponsored since its foundation in 1980, under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan. The exhibition will be held in the Nabatean Foyer of the Amra Hotel from March 25 to 31. Video films on the antiquities of Jordan in general and Jerash and Petra in particular will be shown continuously between 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. each day of the exhibition.

Agricultural issues discussed with U.S.

AMMAN (Petra) — Agriculture Minister Mohammad Bashir discussed with U.S. ambassador to Jordan Richard Viets Wednesday a number of agricultural issues of mutual concern to the two countries. Attending the meeting was the U.S. agricultural attaché.

Wife of Soviet envoy praises role of Jordanian women

AMMAN (J.T.) — The wife of the Soviet ambassador to Jordan, Mrs. Rano Nishanova, said here Tuesday evening that Jordanian women play an effective role in the governmental, social and political life of Jordan in addition to their activities in a number of important organizations.

Mrs. Nishanova, who was addressing a seminar held at the Soviet Cultural Centre to mark International Women's Day, said Jordanian law guarantees for women the right to elect and being elected to parliament and to be employed in various institutions.

Living proof of this policy is the presence of Mrs. Laila Sharaf at the head of the Ministry of Information, Mrs. Nishanova said.

Voices against imperialism

She said: "Jordanian women, like all women around the world, raise their voices against imperialism."

erialist hegemony and Zionist practices aimed at Arab countries and particularly against the Palestinian people.

"Women around the world are struggling determinedly for the sake of establishing peace, because it is they who give life to children and therefore they who feel they have a major responsibility for safeguarding the future of their children."

"The downfall of the imperialist system," she said, "led to the emergence of independent states followed by women's liberation movements aimed at highlighting women's role in social and political life in these new states."

Equal opportunities

Mrs. Nishanova said that Soviet women enjoy equal opportunities with men in social, cultural, and political affairs in their own country.

According to Mrs. Nishanova,

Soviet women constitute 54 per cent of the population and enjoy the same rights as men to education and work in all walks of life.

Nearly 700 out of every 1,000 Soviet women have acquired a high standard of scientific education and training, while 390,000 women are acknowledged scholars and 4,500 have obtained doctoral degrees in scientific fields, Mrs. Nishanova said.

She added that 1.7 million Soviet women received medals for bravery during the world wars and 91,000 women have been awarded the title of "Hero of the Soviet Union".

Also 4,500 Soviet women now have the title of "Hero of Socialist Work," she said.

In the Supreme Soviet, 30 per cent of the deputies are women and many of the industrial and scientific institutions in the Soviet Union are managed by women, Mrs. Nishanova added.

NPC, chamber discuss French aid

AMMAN (Petra) — National Planning Council (NPC) President Omar Abdullah Dakhlan Wednesday received the Franco-Arab Chambers of Commerce delegation headed by Mr. Michel Habib Deloncle.

During the meeting, attended by NPC Secretary-General Ziyad Fariz and the Federation of Jordanian Chambers of Commerce Secretary-General Amin Al Husseini, there was a review of the aims and achievements of the five-year development plan and

the possibilities of France's participation in some of the plan's projects.

Mr. Deloncle was also received by Water Authority Director-General Mohammad Saleh Kelani, with whom he and the accompanying delegation reviewed the local and future projects of the authority, and the methods of co-operation between the latter and the French government.

Mr. Kelani displayed the authority's studies on surface and subterranean waters, sewerage networks, and the possibility of re-circulating water for agricultural purposes.

The guest delegation promised

to put some of these projects before the French government to study the possibility of participation in their implementation.

Mr. Deloncle will hold a press conference Thursday morning at the Hotel Jordan Intercontinental during which he will talk about Franco-Arab economic relations in general and Jordanian-French relations in particular.

Moreover, Mr. Deloncle, a former French minister, will review the results of talks which, together with the accompanying delegation, he has held with Jordanian officials in both the public and private sectors over the last few days.

Alia folklore troupe moves Arab Americans to tears in Los Angeles

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Alia Royal Jordanian Folklore Troupe recently returned from Chicago and Los Angeles, where they made special appearances to celebrate the inauguration of Alia's new route to the United States.

The 32-member troupe, headed by Mano Samarian and accompanied by public relations co-ordinator Claudette Safi, performed for some 2,500 guests at parties hosted by Alia in both cities, as well as at a fund-raising dinner for the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee in California.

All three performances served to strengthen understanding and relations between the Arab and American communities and high officials representing both communities attended the parties, a spokesman for Alia said.

Dr. Clovis Makoud, ambassador of the Arab League, was present and spoke at both Los Angeles events.

During the Alia party, the key to the city of Los Angeles was presented by city officials to Alia vice-president and general manager North America, Mr. Ahmad Sabagh, who received it on behalf of the airline.

The Alia troupe provided a very impressive rendering of Jordanian cultural traditions, much appreciated by all, including many



The Alia Royal Jordanian Folklore Troupe in action during their recent tour of North America to celebrate the inauguration of the airline's new route to the west coast (J.T. file photo)

Americans who had never heard or seen Arab music and dancing before, the spokesman, who accompanied the tour, said.

The performances brought some Arab-Americans to tears, with warm memories of their original homeland.

The Alia Royal Jordanian Folklore Troupe was formed in 1980, under the sponsorship of Alia, The Royal Jordanian Airline.

Its members comprise amateurs, Alia employees, students and others who participate for the love of their traditions and enjoy sharing them with other peoples, as part of Alia's mission of good will around the world, the spokesman said.

The troupe is led by Mano Samarian, who is the choreographer and artistic director.

The men and women of the troupe were joined by musical composer Jamil Al Aas, singers Salwa and Faris Awad, and musicians led by Karamah Haddad.

Hotel to host Cyprus nights

AMMAN (J.T.) — On March 10, 11 and 12 a group of folk dancers from Paphos, the ancient capital of Cyprus, will be visiting Jordan and will be leading a cultural and tourism promotion at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel.

There will be Cyprus dancing, Cyprus music, Cyprus food, Cyprus wine and a presentation of the cultural and touristic advantages of the Paphos area.

Paphos is the birthplace of Aphrodite the goddess of love and beauty — it was she, who the Romans called Venus.

The folk dancers are called "Lovers of Culture" and their visit is being sponsored by The Leptos Group of companies and in particular by the tourism division of The Leptos Group.

The Leptos Group has been established over 20 years and, through Vesta Holidays, have become one of the leading self-catering holidays firms in Cyprus.

Land, air transport policy to form basis of dialogue

AMMAN (Petra) — Subjects relating to land and air transport between Jordan and Iraq will be discussed during a meeting to be held in Baghdad between Transport Minister Taher Hikmat and his Iraqi counterpart, according to Al Ra'i daily Arabic newspaper.

Mr. Hikmat, who will visit Iraq within the coming few days at the invitation of the Iraqi Communications and Transport minister, will also discuss a number of subjects pertaining to freight charges between Baghdad and Amman.

In addition, they will talk about the application of axle load regulations and will review land transport movement between the

Chinese head of state to arrive in Jordan today

President Li's visit to boost trade, cement political ties

By Ding Wen
China Features Staff Writer

BEIJING — Chinese President Li Xiannian, 75, will pay a six day visit to Jordan beginning today at the invitation of His Majesty King Hussein. President Li, who is arriving from Pakistan, is on his first trip abroad since he was elected president of the People's Republic of China last June.

President Li Xiannian will be accompanied on the visit by his wife Lin Jiamai, Vice-Premier of the State Council Tian Jiyun, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Gong Dafei and Vice-Minister of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade Zheng Tuobin.

A spokesman for the information department of the Chinese Foreign Ministry said that the purpose of President Li's visit is to promote mutual understanding, to deepen friendship and to expand co-operation between China and Jordan.

Li Xiannian will exchange views with King Hussein on the development of Sino-Jordanian co-operation and relations as well as on international questions, especially on the situation in the Middle East and other issues of common concern.

"President Li's visit to Jordan will surely promote friendly co-operation and relations between the two countries to a new stage," said the spokesman.

According to the Chinese Foreign Ministry, during their stay, President Li and his party will visit Jordan's Martyr's Memorial, Hussein Medical City, the Jordan Valley, the Dead Sea, Aqaba and archaeological sites in the country.

"Both China and Jordan belong to the Third World and have shared similar experiences in the past and face the common tasks today of closing ranks against world hegemony, safeguarding world peace and developing their national economies," the spokesman said.

"The two countries hold ide-

ntical or similar positions on a number of major international issues and leaders of both countries have expressed satisfaction with developments in Sino-Jordanian relations," the spokesman added.

While visiting China last September, King Hussein observed that it was his second visit in less than a year and with each visit his feelings of friendship for China increase.

King Hussein also expressed his pleasure at the speed at which relations between China and Jordan have developed.

When Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang met King Hussein, he said that the growing relations between the two countries conformed with the common desires and basic interests of the two peoples.

Trade exchange

Trade contacts between China and Jordan started in 1950.

In April 1977, the two countries established diplomatic relations and in May of the same year a formal trade agreement was signed between the two governments.

Last year, the Chinese and Jordanian governments signed an agreement to establish a joint committee for economic and technical co-operation and trade. Since then trade relations between the two sides have developed steadily.

Total volume of trade between the two countries was \$49.5 million in 1981 and this rose to \$69.5 million in 1983.

Italian sculpture show opens

AMMAN (Petra) — The Italian sculpture exhibition "Multiple", organised by the Italian Embassy in Amman in co-operation with the Department of Culture and Art (DCA), was inaugurated Tuesday at the Royal Cultural Centre by the Hussein Youth City Director Issam Arida on behalf of the Minister of Culture, Youth and Antiquities.

The six-day exhibition comprises 56 works by 29 Italian artists sculpted in bronze, wood and

marble. Some of the works are silver plated.

The inauguration ceremony was attended by a number of artists attached to the DCA and the Department of Libraries, Documentation and National Archives, both the ambassadors in Jordan of Italy, Marquis Fabrizio Rossi Longhi, and of Oman, Abdullah Said Abdullah, as well as a number of Arab and foreign diplomats and those interested in art.

Academy head returns

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan's Academy of Arabic president, Dr. Abdul Karim Khalifeh, Wednesday returned to Amman after having represented Jordan at the academy's 50th anniversary celebrations and the annual conference of the Academy of Arabic in Cairo.

Dr. Khalifeh said that during the conference he submitted a research paper in which he requested the integration of all Academies of Arabic into one pan-Arab academy for the Arabic language. The present academies, he envisaged, would become branches of the national academy.

During his visit to Cairo, Dr. Khalifeh also participated in the meeting of the Arab Language Academies (ALA), where it was agreed to contact the Moroccan Culture Ministry on holding the ALA's next seminar in Morocco.

Dentists to go to Arab talks

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian Dentists Association (JDA) will take part in the meetings of the permanent bureau of the Arab Dentists Federation scheduled to start in Algeria on March 20.

President of the JDA, Dr. Abdul Aziz Al Haj Ahmad, said that the bureau will discuss financial and administrative reports on the federation and its activities.

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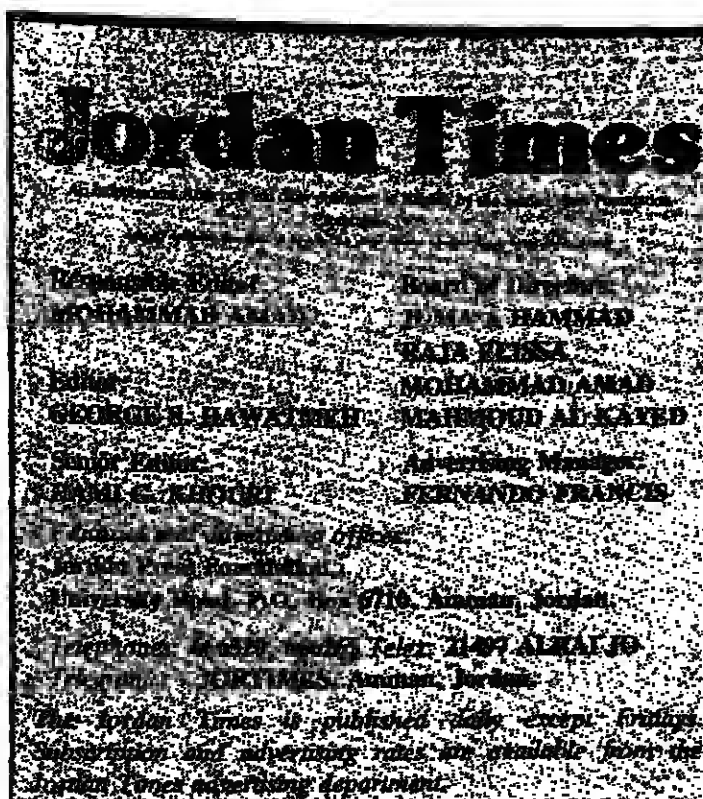
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It takes a different approach

LESSENING of the U.S. political and military role in Lebanon must give way to a different kind of effort to solve the problems there. Given the complexity of these problems and the large number of players who all have stakes in the outcome, however, it is not easy to come up with a satisfactory definition of the required effort. Syria has won the battle against the U.S.-sponsored agreement of May 17 between Lebanon and Israel, but President Assad cannot restore Lebanon single-handedly; Damascus needs either the co-operation or the total defeat of others, friends and enemies alike, to crown any final success that it may want to achieve in the future. A combination of Syrian and Arab effort is vital for any progress in Lebanon, but it may not be enough, on its own, for a lasting settlement to be reached in the foreseeable future; how to end Israel's occupation of the south is really the basic question that has to be tackled by a solid Arab position, if and when it materialised. A strong and unified Arab stance may be much more effective, not only on Lebanon but on Palestine as well, if it is made to bring about a more serious attitude by the U.S., and the Soviet Union, on the Middle East.

The Reagan administration has accepted with "regret" the Lebanese government's cancellation of the May 17 accord, with American officials simply repeating what Secretary of State George Shultz was saying earlier that "those who were responsible for the rejection of the agreement must bear the responsibility to find an alternative formula to bring about Israeli withdrawal." But this is now more of an emotional plea than a political position from Washington.

The Syrians undoubtedly have rejoiced after President Gemayel decided to scrap his agreement with the Israelis. Rejoicing, however, is one thing, victory is another. And Damascus should be looking at the stage far beyond winning tactical battles and scoring points in the Middle East quagmire, if it is really interested in regional peace and stability.

Again, there cannot be an easy definition for that single effort that could restore Lebanon at a stroke. There is nevertheless a basic, simple concept behind that effort: Lebanon, and no other country, must be the eventual winner.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Another blow to Israel

THE ABROGATION of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement came in response to Arab demand and formed the fruit of a long struggle by the opposition parties in Lebanon to safeguard their country's independence. The move underlines the fact that this region cannot tolerate the presence of two opposed entities: that of the Arabs and of Israel, because the existence of the one is closely related to the destruction of the other.

The scrapping of the agreement was a step towards putting things in their proper perspective. The Israeli idea of peace imposed on the Arabs by means of armed force is different from the Arab Nation's view regarding peace. The latter calls for the restoration of the usurped Arab rights and the realisation of justice.

Despite its potentials and those of its allies, Israel was not able to achieve its aims nor harvest the fruit of its invasion of Lebanon. The agreement which it signed with Lebanon under coercion was like a castle built on sand.

The abrogation of the agreement was the second blow of its kind Israel had received after Egypt's decision to freeze its relations with the Zionist state. Let us pursue struggle against the enemy and deal them a final blow with our final victory.

Al Dustour: Unpatriotic Falangist stance

AS THE various Lebanese parties embark on efforts for resuming their reconciliation conference and prepare the ground for a solid resistance to Israel's aggression, the Falangists turn their attention to alternatives contrary to the general consensus. They have alone opposed the scrapping of the May 17 agreement with Israel and are taking steps to strengthen their ties with Israel at the expense of their country.

The Falangists' ties with Israel had existed for a long time but assumed ominous forms during the 1982 Israeli invasion of Lebanon, where the Zionists paved the way for Israel to impose its hegemony on Lebanon and eventually led to the signing of the agreement. The Falangist-Israeli alliance had almost distorted Lebanon's Arab image and was leading the country towards partition and destruction.

The abrogation of the agreement harms this alliance and hence the Falangists are seeking to foil President Gemayel's decision, and to oppose any moves on the part of other factions to achieve national reconciliation in Lebanon.

Sawt Al Shaab: Positive developments in Lebanon

THE ABROGATION of the Israeli-Lebanese May 17 agreement and a call for the resumption of the reconciliation talks in Geneva have taken Lebanon one step further towards peace, stability and security. The move has foiled all calls for policies designed to weaken the Arab stand and to divide Arab ranks and, above all, frustrated Lebanese isolationist groups who have tried to keep Lebanon out of the Arab fold.

The agreement which has been scrapped through the struggle of the Lebanese people had been intended to harm Lebanon's independence and unity and had been designed to serve the expansionist designs of Israel and its allies.

Following the abrogation of the agreement Israel has been trying to sow new seeds of dissension among Lebanese factions and has been trying to set one of the warring groups against the other. A recent statement by Israel's Defence Minister Moshe Arens about an Israeli alliance with the people of South Lebanon is intended to create further unrest in Lebanon and to safeguard Zionist ambitions and interests in the country.

Only through unity among the Lebanese parties and national reconciliation can enable Lebanon to overcome the new conspiracies and foil Zionist plots.

Abrogation signals failing U.S. policies

By Paul Fedle
Reuter

BEIRUT — The Lebanese government's abrogation Monday of its troop withdrawal agreement with Israel marks a defeat for U.S. policy and confirms Lebanon's new alignment with Syria.

The United States spent from December 1982 to May 1983 negotiating the agreement, which it hoped would lead to the withdrawal of both Israeli and Syrian forces from Lebanon and the establishment of a strong government in Beirut.

But the accord was born dead. Israel said it would only carry out its commitment to withdraw if Syrian troops pulled out — and Syria refused to move because it said the agreement made unacceptable concessions to Israel.

The United States proved unable to break the deadlock. As the months dragged by, the balance of power in Lebanon slowly tipped against the United States, Israel, President Amin Gemayel and the country's right-wing Christians in favour of Syria and the mainly-Muslim opposition fighting the government.

Events reached a climax last month, when opposition militias defeated the Lebanese army in two big battles, thousands of soldiers defected to the opposition, and the United States withdrew its force of Marines from Beirut.

The weakened Mr. Gemayel chose to make concessions rather

than see the country slip into total civil war.

He travelled to Damascus last week and promised Syrian President Hafez Al Assad, he would meet the main Syrian-Muslim demand, to scrap the May 17 agreement with Israel.

Now opposition leaders have agreed to attend a new round of talks on national reconciliation in Switzerland in a few days' time and a ceasefire has taken effect for the first time in a month.

But nobody can predict how these talks may turn out, whether the fragile ceasefire will last, and whether it will ever prove possible to negotiate the withdrawal of Israeli and Syrian troops from Lebanon.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir condemned the abrogation and said Israel would determine for itself the best way to ensure its security. Israel has previously indicated that this means keeping its troops in Lebanon.

Lebanon's main right-wing militia, the "Lebanese Forces", has already vowed to oppose Mr. Gemayel's new policies, declaring it a "sacred obligation" to resist "all Syrian options".

Opposition sources said two main anti-government groups, the Druze and the Shi'ites, had already agreed on a list of radical reforms to put to the reconciliation conference, including the replacement of Mr. Gemayel and an end to Christian domination of Lebanese politics.

But leaders of the "Lebanese

Forces' have said there is no future for such reforms. They assert that the only solution for Lebanon is to divide it into autonomous cantons ruled by the different religious groups.

It has taken just 18 months for the balance of power to tip in favour of Syria and the opposition, after Israel's invasion of Lebanon in 1982 brought the power of right-wing Christians, and the influence of the Americans, to a peak.

A series of bomb attacks on right-wing Christian, Israeli, American, and French targets which killed more than 500 people has hastened the change. Nobody has ever conclusively identified who was behind the attacks but they undoubtedly served Syrian and opposition interests.

First, a bomb in September 1982 killed "Lebanese Forces" commander Bashir Gemayel a week before he was due to take office as president. Israel, the United States and militant right-wing Christians in Lebanon had relied on the charismatic, tough 34-year-old Bashir to build a strong central government which would stand up to Syria.

Bashir's milder brother Amin took his place, promising a more cautious policy of political reforms to reconcile the Lebanese factions and dependence on the United States to negotiate the withdrawal of Israeli and Syrian forces.

The result of this policy was the May 17 agreement, finally concluded by the United States after a suicide bomb attack on the American

Embassy in Beirut made Washington determined to notch up a foreign policy success in Lebanon.

Syria rejected the agreement, which allowed Israelis to take part in joint patrols in South Lebanon and restricted the military forces Beirut could keep in the area.

The diplomatic paralysis which then set in gave the initiative to the gunmen and bombers.

Factional fighting between Falangist forces and mainly Druze Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) forced Israel to withdraw from the mountains overlooking Beirut, leading to a three-week war in September in which the Lebanese army and the United States discredited themselves in the eyes of Muslims by intervening to save the Falangists from total defeat.

Suicide bombs in October and November, which killed 241 U.S. servicemen, 58 French troops, and 29 Israelis, put pressure on Israel to withdraw further from South Lebanon and prompted the United States to review its policy on Lebanon.

Opposition militias then effectively declared war on Mr. Gemayel's government at the start of last month and in two bouts of fierce fighting seized control of west Beirut and a large area of the mountains from the Lebanese army.

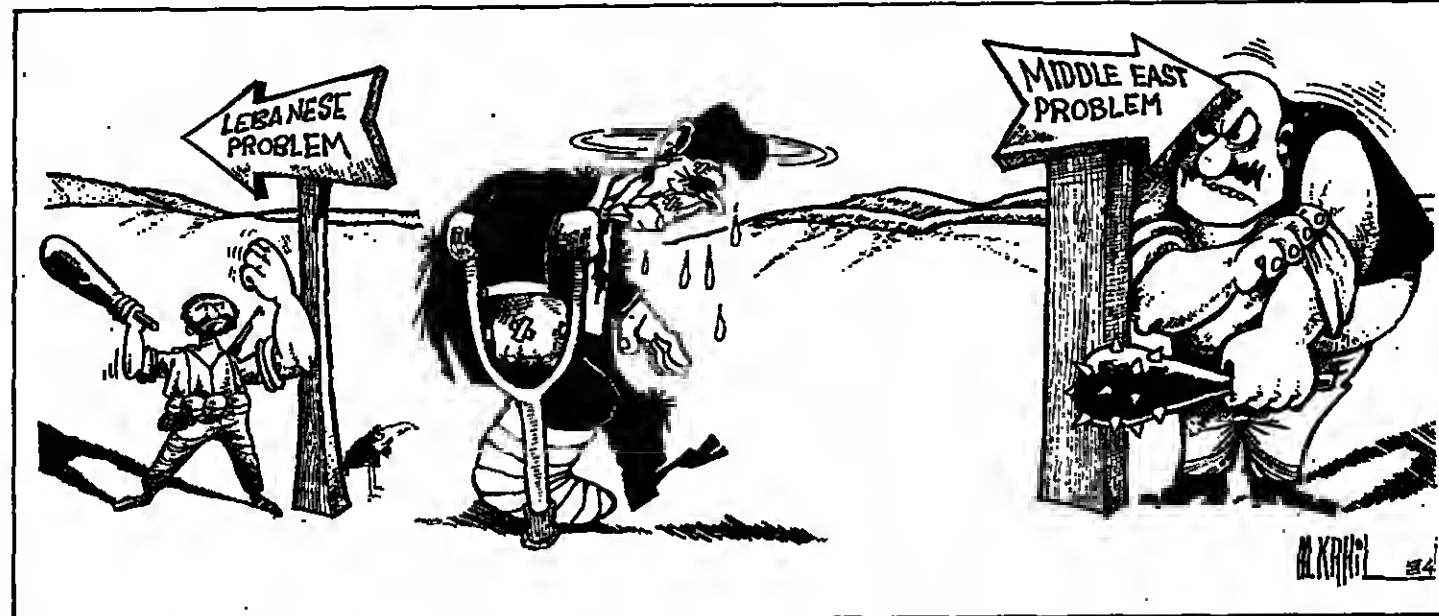
Thousands of soldiers, trained by the United States to be the vital support for a strong central government, defected to the opposition with their American-



supplied arms and equipment.

As opposition leaders called for Mr. Gemayel's resignation and the country split into warring camps, the United States moved its 1,600 Marines out of Beirut to ships offshore, and withdrew its special envoy from diplomatic efforts over Lebanon.

President Reagan said the United States was not retreating. But the dream of a strong, independent Lebanon was gone and the abrogation of the May 17 agreement finally confirmed that Mr. Gemayel had swapped reliance on Washington for concessions to Damascus.



China re-assesses its strategic role

By Eric Hall
Reuter

PEKING — Important signs are emerging that China's armed forces are slowly changing into a more effective instrument to realise the state's strategic objectives.

China's overwhelming security concern is the defence of its long land borders, while its apparent wish to increase its role as a regional power depends on its navy.

China's strategic nuclear forces can now reach most of the Soviet Union and its coastal defences are good. It may also be developing a submarine-launched nuclear missile capability.

But problems remain. China's outdated land and air defences would fare badly against attack, while lack of funds means it cannot develop an ocean-going fleet compatible with its objectives before the end of the century.

China tested its first nuclear device in the early sixties. But its nuclear potential only began to concern Moscow in the late seventies when some Soviet anti-ballistic missile defences were redeployed to face the Chinese threat.

Priority is now given in China to the strategic forces.

"Defence funds should be con-

centrated on those programmes which are badly needed and the most important areas which affect the overall situation, such as strategic guided missiles, nuclear fuel and bombs," Defence Minister Zhang Aiping has said.

The core of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) deterrent is about 60 intermediate-range ballistic missiles (IRbms), according to published material from the London-based International Institute for Strategic Studies and other sources.

There are two types, the largest with a warhead of up to three megatons and a maximum range of 5,600 kilometres.

China has also deployed some four or more five-megaton, 13,000 kilometre intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICbms), and possibly another Icbm with double the power but less range, first tested in 1976.

But it has only about 500 known medium-range ballistic missiles (MRbms), which are obsolete and being phased out.

The problem with all the land-based missiles, many still based in reinforced silos, is their vulnerability to increasingly accurate multi-warhead missiles.

China's concern is underlined by its insistence that Moscow remove an estimated 144 SS-20

IRbms deployed in the Far East.

There are also problems with China's long-range strategic bombers. Strong Soviet air defences mean any missions by the force of about 120 B-6 aircraft, based on the Soviet TU-16, would be one-way only, foreign military sources said.

China's next priority in modernising its arsenal must be further development of a nuclear ballistic missile submarine (SSBN), the hardest weapon to neutralise. At least one almost certainly exists.

Non-Chinese sources said they believe China's most realistic programme would be to build as many as five of the reported "Xia" class SSBNs, each armed with 12 IRbms, by the early 1990s.

"It takes four or five to guarantee one constantly at sea. As they don't have too much to spend they will probably go for that, about the same as Britain and France," one said.

Last year, in an official magazine, Mr. Zhang said use of liquid and solid missile fuels, and land and underwater launching technology had all been developed.

Yet perhaps the crucial factor in China's nuclear deterrence is its stated determination to use its missiles if attacked.

"They say they will use the

weapons. I think the Soviets and everybody else have got the message," one diplomat said.

The deployment of PLA conventional forces suggests Peking is serious in its warnings that it would use nuclear weapons.

Almost 40 per cent of its infantry divisions and 60 per cent of its armour are concentrated around Peking and in the northeast, where it cannot afford to lose ground.

Only a tenth is stationed in the thinly populated west, where China might use nuclear weapons on its own land in the event of an attack.

But there is a significant central reserve — including all airborne troops — around Wuhan, west of Shanghai, guarding a second-line of defence on the Yangtze River.

Present political objectives and the PLA's limitations rule out big offensive operations, although the 1979 war with Vietnam showed China's willingness to take casualties to make a point.

China's current strategic aims centre on defending the Asian Sea lanes, securing its developing offshore oil industry from attack, extending its influence into the Pacific and also into the South China Sea, most of which it claims.

Ideological confusion over Iran's economy

Kathleen Evans, recently in Tehran, looks at the changes wrought by the Ayatollah's Islamic Revolution.

THE LATEST Iranian offensive in the Gulf war, and its heavy cost to the nation in human and financial terms, tends to overshadow a more fundamental debate taking place in Tehran.

Five years after the overthrow of the Shah and the establishment of an Islamic Republic, the country's leadership has still to make up its mind about which ideology should govern the running of the economy.

Like everything else in Iran, the economy is a religious matter. One faction within the country, represented largely by members of the cabinet, believes that what Iran experienced in 1979 was not only a return to Islamic ideals but also a revolution.

Therefore, the primary motive of the economy should be a nationalised vital economic institutions and bring about the redistribution of income and land.

The principal vehicles for the ideas of the reformists were contained in two bills put forward to the 270-member Majlis (parliament). They were the Land Reform Bill and the nationalisation of foreign trade.

The Land Reform Bill would have redistributed rural holdings to the peasants who work the land, while the second would have put the whole of Iran's external trade in the hands of the state, away from the bazaar which has traditionally handled import business until now.

These reformist bills were approved by the Majlis. However, when they went for approval before the Guardians' Council, the all-powerful council of six Islamic law specialists and senior clergy — they were both vetoed.

Clearly, the top ayatollahs believed that such legislation smelt of socialism or Marxism, and therefore were un-Islamic. Free, unfettered capitalism is more appropriate for an Islamic republic, they feel.

There the matter has rested for more than a year, with the two bills languishing in parliamentary sub-committees. But since then, Bazaar interests have taken further knocks.

Six months ago, their representative in the cabinet, Trade Minister Assarowadi, was forced to resign. Ostensibly, he was blamed for the soaring prices in the free market — rice in particular. Since then, the round of arrests of "profiteers" and "hoarders" has continued.

In Iran, profit is legally limited to 15 per cent. There were even suggestions that the merchants pay contributions direct to the government, rather than to the clergy.

In Iran, many wealthy merchants pay one-fifth of their profits to a senior clergyman of their own choosing. Such suggestions are unlikely to meet with the mullah's approval, but it was symptomatic of the continuing dispute between the government and the bazaar.

The Tehran merchants took their worries direct to Imam Khomeini who re-assured them of their role in the country and the part they could play in the for-

thcoming elections. Many Iranians are expecting bazaar interests to emerge more strongly in the new Majlis, providing an even more conservative flavour to the assembly than now.

Until the great debate over economic ideology is over, Iran's private sector is hesitant to invest in the country. It wants guarantees against nationalisation and assurances that the legislative background to the economy will be stable. Most businessmen are hoping that the new parliament will resolve these questions.

While this ideological confusion has continued, private investment has been sunk largely into the property market; increasing property values in the capital four- or five-fold since the revolution.

One management consultant commented: "My own house has gone up 20 per cent in value in the last three months, and that is on top of 100 per cent increase over the last two years."

Investing in property has proved a highly lucrative way to beat the biting inflation rate which prevails. Officially, inflation is estimated at 20 per cent a year, but analysts say it is nearer 40 or 50 per cent.

Many Iranians prefer to put their savings into gold coins rather than leave their money in the banks in rials. The Iranian rial is officially pegged at 20 rials to the dollar, yet on the free market one dollar is worth between 500 and 550 rials.

Another convulsion the economy faces within the next year is the total Islamisation of the banks. The government had originally intended to introduce Islamic banking next month, but such was the reaction from the public that the plan was put off for a year.

Until then, ordinary interest-bearing accounts will continue to exist alongside Islamic accounts. A number of banks were reported to have suffered heavy withdrawals until the announcement came of the delay in implementation.

However, even Iranian bankers believe that the Islamisation of the banking system could lead to heavy losses, and that support will be necessary from the Central Bank.

The plan could also prove unpopular with the bazaar, for under the legislation, merchants will have to agree to share part of their sales of imports with the bank, letters of credit will only be opened if the importer agrees to this, say bank officials.

For the average Iranian, life has become much harder since the revolution. Although the government has established a basic safety net in the form of coupons which provide basic food items, many Iranians complain that the food available on the coupon system is insufficient in quantity and lacking in quality.

The system allows, for example, only three lbs of meat a week for a family of six, and 10 eggs per person a month. Many make up the differences on the free market and here prices are soaring.

Yet for the untold revolutionaryaries that they were, the government has done fairly well in managing the economy, considering the challenges it faces.

— The Financial Times

Brazilians press for ending military rule

By Bryna Brennan
Associated Press

BRASILIA — Hundreds of thousands of Brazilians are taking to the streets, demanding popular elections and showing a force unknown since the military assumed power 20 years ago.

Demonstrations organised by the opposition parties are held almost daily from the steamy Amazon towns to the temperate southern cities to call for an end to the electoral college that will name a successor to President Joao Figueiredo in 1985.

The government, which has been in power since a 1964 right-wing military coup, is showing some signs that it will compromise.

The opposition plans to soon introduce into congress a bill calling for direct elections in 1985. A constitutional amendment with a two-thirds majority would be needed to end the electoral college. Government party leaders are trying with the idea of submitting a bill that would authorise

direct elections — once the upcoming elections have been held under the present system.

The proposed compromise does not make everyone happy, however.

"The people want a change after 20 years, and they want it now," said Fernando Lyra, first secretary of the House of Representatives and member of the largest opposition, the Brazilian Democratic Movement Party.

"The electoral college is not legitimate and is not fair," Mr. Lyra said.

Five months before the November 1982 elections were held, the then government-weighted House pushed through legislation to change the composition of the electoral college.

As a result, the body now consists of all members of the Senate and House Representatives, plus six representatives from each of the 23 states, regardless of population.

Therefore, the opposition argues, the electoral college is not representative of the people.

The government's Social Democratic Party won the coveted electoral college in the 1982 elections because of the legislation, even though they lost the popular vote.

Figueiredo has promised to return this country of 131 million people to civilian rule. And while the next president, even if named by the electoral college, probably will be a civilian, the opposition argues that it is time for a change.

The direct election rallies began after neighbour Argentina voted in President Raul Alfonsin in October and ousted the military regime.

The demonstrators, carrying signs that say: "Direct elections right now," and "down with the dictatorship," are defying the government in a show of strength not seen since the coup.

"Brazilians have the right to choose the president," said Jose Rodrigues, a porter at the Hotel Nacional. "We want to show that we don't want the military."

Mr. Figueiredo, 66, recently restated that the next president will be selected by the electoral

college. But several politicians have said that before he leaves office in 1985, the president will submit a bill for direct elections in 1988.

The strong Roman Catholic Church also backs the moves for direct elections.

In a clearly democratic regime it is necessary to have a large participation of the citizens in selecting their representatives," said the Secretary-General of the National Conference of Brazil, Bishops Dom Luciano Mendes de Almeida.

The opposition said it plans to hold a massive rally in the capital of Brasilia shortly before the direct election legislation is introduced.

Government sources said the president "could and most likely would" enact emergency measures to ban such a demonstration.

In October 1982 Mr. Figueiredo declared 60 days of emergency measures in the federal district of Brasilia, saying he did not want the legislators pressured.

Curren ousted from Belgium tennis

BRUSSELS (R) — Belgium's Bernard Boileau upset the rankings by beating South African Kevin Curren 6-3, 6-4 in the first round of the Belgian Indoor Tennis Championships here Tuesday night.

Boileau, 144th on the Association of Tennis Professionals' Rankings list, defeated the world

number 10, with aggressive net play combined with telling passing shots from the baseline.

Boileau forced the crucial break in the fourth game of the second set and his progress was never seriously threatened. But he wasted three match points before eliminating last year's Wimbledon semifinalist.

U.N. says Pretoria has failed to gain sports acceptance

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The United Nations body said Wednesday that, despite "heavily-financed and deceitful propaganda efforts," South Africa had failed to persuade world opinion it had eliminated racial discrimination in sports.

"Despite intensive lobbying by South Africa and its friends, no international sports body which has excluded or suspended South Africa from membership has reversed its decision," the U.N. centre against apartheid said.

Its comments were made in the introduction to its latest sports 'blacklist,' containing the names of sports figures reported to have had contacts with South Africa during the second half of 1983.

The centre said: "The racist regime of South Africa and the racist sports bodies in that country have failed to achieve any success in their heavily-financed and de-

ceitful propaganda efforts to persuade world opinion that there is no more racial discrimination and segregation in sports in South Africa and that the international boycott of apartheid sports should be terminated."

The centre added that pressure for a sporting boycott of South Africa had grown and more governments had taken action in support of the ban.

"In their desperation, the Pretoria regime and the racist sports bodies have come to rely mainly on the use of huge amounts of money to secure some participation in international sports

competition," it continued. "With a handsome budget made up of contributions from business enterprises as well as public and secret government funds, they have persisted with the virtual bribery of individual sportspersons or threats to undermine amateur sports."

The U.N. body said the recently-formed South African sports sponsors association had donated millions of dollars to lure overseas sports stars to compete in South Africa and to undermine internal opposition by offering substantial rewards to those who competed within the government's sport policy.

"Apartheid, however, continues to be entrenched in sports and in South African society generally, albeit with some adjustments. However, international opposition to apartheid sports has continued to grow."

South African Grand Prix given more time

PARIS (R) — South African motor racing officials were Wednesday given one more day to provide assurances that they can stage a Formula One Grand Prix next month, the International Motor Sport Federation (FISA) said.

Earlier, FISA President Jean-Marie Balestre told a news conference South Africa had to give the guarantees by this evening or lose the right to stage the race.

But a few hours later the federation said in a press statement:

"At the request of the organisers of the South African Grand Prix, FISA has granted an additional extension expiring at midnight on Thursday March 8 so all the necessary guarantees for the organisation of the 1984 Grand Prix may be obtained."

Balestre also said there would be no Belgian Grand Prix if renewed problems over the venue were not sorted out by midnight Thursday.

The problem seemed resolved in January when Zolder were given this year's race and Francorchamps the next two. But Balestre said Wednesday the Belgian Automobile Club had sent a new message to FISA, outlining contractual problems over the venue.

"This is our last demand. They must say by tomorrow midnight. If not there'll be no Belgian Grand Prix," he said. There would be no substitute races, he added.

On the South African Grand Prix problem, Kyalami racetrack owner Bobby Hatslief said seven

weeks ago he was confident required modifications would be completed by Wednesday and financial guarantees would be given by Feb. 1.

He said at the time a wall at the corner at the end of the main straight would be removed and a 300-metre (yard) sand run-off laid to conform with FISA's main requirement.

One Formula One race — the New York Grand Prix — has already been scrapped from this year's World Championship calendar because the city, under pressure from environment protection groups, has withheld its authorisation.

Spain will hold a Grand Prix instead in Fuengirola on the country's southern coast, near Malaga. The Fuengirola race will be held on October 21, Balestre said Wednesday.

Egypt's Al Ahli beats Jordanian team

AMMAN (J.T.) — The visiting Egyptian soccer team, Al Ahli, defeated a combined team from Jordan's Al Jazirah and Al Ahli football clubs Wednesday at the Sports City stadium.

Two goals scored by Samir Fawzi and Ala' Mayhoub in the second half gave the Egyptians victory in the opening match of their visit to Jordan.

Despite the scoreline, which is not a true reflection of the match, Al Ahli should have scored five more goals.

Youth committee meets

AMMAN (Petra) — The national committee for the International Year for Youth discussed in its meeting, held Tuesday at Al Hussein Youth City, the work contributions made by the Forum Humsaym committees to the International Year for Youth activities as well as national studies on youth. The meeting was chaired by Minister of Youth, Culture and Antiquities and the president of the committee Dr. Abdullatif 'Oweidat.

Jordan takes part in Arab scouts meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will take part in discussions of plans and programmes for training scouts of the Arab World which will start in Kuwait Saturday.

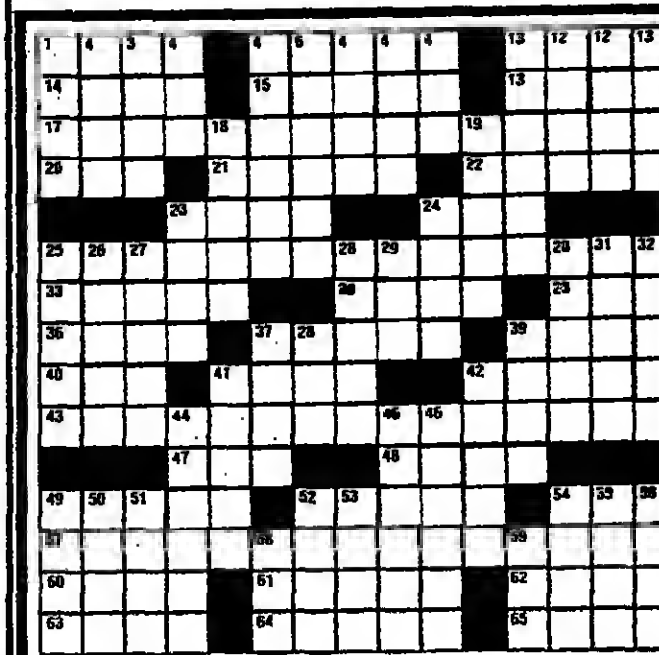
Mr. Fahd Qasbi, leader of scouts training in Jordan who left for Kuwait Wednesday to take part in the six-day meeting said that the participants will also discuss research projects presented by committees affiliated to the Arab Scouts Bureau. The participants will represent various scout movements throughout the Arab World, he said.

THE Daily Crossword by Christy Ridley

ACROSS	34 Russ. sea	57 Data from	24 Epochal
1 Actual	35 Mauna —	written	25 — La
6 Medicinal	36 Kind of	chronolo-	26 Plausible
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old films	39 Sports	works	28 Vows
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16 Aroma	41 Lefty	63 Eroded	30 Derived
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24 Over. pref.	49 Source	3 Peak	42 Backpacker
25 Data from	of wine	4 On the —	43 Backpacker
judicial	52 Tropical	(fleeing)	44 Unseal
archives	lizard	5 Lower	45 Formal
33 Foreign	54 Utmost	ranking	dance

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

ETHIOPIA	SALIA	ABRHA
ROASTY	TRIOIS	CLIAN
MANIA	RIGHT	RIANO
ABIBENDUM	CHICKIES	
SADADY	BARLEY	
MAINTEN	PARCEL	
ALNA	REPAY	EEBIE
SAKRI	DAILED	SELL
YEBINY	BEIDED	DIT
YANIS	CHAMAN	
ONIRWAY	ITALIA	
SHIRINY	DESCANTS	
MAKIOSMER	UNIQUE	
HARDIE	WABIS	LEENS
WARIO	SILVIE	ADOLIS



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BASMAN

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SCANNERS

Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8

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Amitabh Bachan
"Indian film"

Performances: 12-3-7

2- GIRLS SCHOOL'S DOCTOR
Colour

Cinema
RAGHADAN

Tel: 22198

PUKAR
"Indian film"
(Colour)

Performances: 12-3-5:30-8

Norway may scrap N. Sea gas project

OSLO (R) — Norway will scrap a North Sea gas project and switch to oil field development if Britain rejects a draft price agreement for gas from the project, Oil Minister Kaare Kristiansen said Tuesday.

The Norwegian state oil company Statoil said in February that it had agreed on a draft contract with the British Gas Corporation to supply Britain with gas from the Sleipner field, which is expected to be a major source for gas supplies to Europe in the next decade.

But industry sources in London said last month that the British government has told the corporation to enter talks with the Netherlands on gas supplies as an alternative to Norwegian gas.

Mr. Kristiansen told Reuters: "We have made it quite clear to the British authorities that should the Sleipner deal not materialise, we would then switch to development of oil fields."

"That would be an irreversible decision and a decisive step in developments in the North Sea," he said.

Industry sources have estimated the contract to be worth around 200 billion crowns (\$26 billion) and will cover supplies of 185 billion cubic metres of gas.

Mr. Kristiansen said he did not rule out the possibility that the Norwegian government would take the matter up in London in support of the draft agreement.

He said he still hoped the British government would approve the deal for Sleipner gas as the best alternative for gas supplies to the British market in the future.

Industry sources said it was widely accepted that the price obtained for Sleipner gas would set a pattern for gas from the much larger Troll field, also in the Norwegian sector.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — The market closed mixed after a moderately active session and at 1500 the F.T. index was up 0.2 to 841.8 having touched a record 842.4 while the F.T.-S.E. 100 index at 1530 was down 4.8 at 1059.7.

Government bonds met fairly active two-way interest after the Bank of England cut its money market intervention rates for short dated bills by ¼ point. Early gains of ¼ were replaced by net falls of about ½ after U.S. Fed chairman said that U.S. economy is still very strong in many directions. Index linked bonds were about ½ point off as lower inflation prompted switching into conventional stock, dealers said.

Trading in equities was quiet and selective with the Bank of England-dealing rate cut having little impact. Dealers said the broader market was inclined slightly easier on end account influences and further budget speculation.

ICI at 586 and Hawker at 396 were 6p apiece lower while BTR shed 8p to 464 having risen 29p Tuesday on U.S. demand, dealers said. Narrow gains were noted in Hanson Trust, P and O, Thorn EMI and Tate and Lyle. Oils eased on end account profit taking with Shell 15p lower at 631 while B.P. lost 10p to 425. Life insurers weakened on renewed pre-budget selling and gold shares ended mixed.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One sterling	1.4825/35	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.2571/74	Canadian dollars
	2.5385/95	West German marks
	2.8660/70	Dutch guilders
	2.1077/87	Swiss francs
	51.93/97	Belgian francs
	7.8270/8300	French francs
	1581.75/1582.75	Italian lire
	222.10/25	Japanese yen
	7.5875/5975	Swedish crowns
	7.3650/3750	Norwegian crowns
	9.3000/3100	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	401.70/402.80	U.S. dollars

Experts fear economic surge in U.S. might provoke inflation

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. economy appears to be booming, but Wall Street and some government experts fear that the surge cannot last indefinitely without provoking fresh inflation.

Economists interviewed by Reuters said the economy looked headed for a seven per cent annual growth rate during the current quarter.

During the last three months of 1983 the annual growth rate was 4.9 per cent.

But they said they feared that if the strong growth persists, the Federal Reserve (Fed), the U.S. central bank, might have to squeeze credit to slow down growth and head off a new round of inflation.

Other economists, however, said they believed that the central bank would not act significantly to curb credit until after the U.S. presidential elections in November.

Mr. John Paulus, an analyst with the Wall Street firm Morgan Stanley, said the issue was whether there would be a recession in 1985. "We think the Fed will have to act in 1985 to restrain cyclical inflation," he said.

A factor that highlights the fear of a recession in 1985 is the prospect that the dollar is due for a significant decline this year.

If this should happen, the flow of foreign capital to the U.S., which helped finance its huge federal budget deficits, could drop sharply.

"Late this year, in the wake of a 10 per cent correction in the dollar, we'll see a slowing if not a reversal of capital inflows," said

Mr. Jack Lavery, an economist with Merrill Lynch.

Without these inflows, growing business demand for credit would compete with the U.S. treasury's large financing needs.

Federal Reserve Chairman Paul Volcker and chief presidential economic adviser Mr. Martin Feldstein have warned that U.S. capital markets alone cannot meet such huge financing pressures without pushing interest rates up sharply.

Morgan Stanley's Mr. Paulus said strong growth today would eventually boost capacity use — the rate at which the nation uses its productive resources — to 85 per cent and lower unemployment to 7.5 per cent, boosting wage and price rises.

Calling such developments "a sure recipe for a more than a gentle rise in inflation," he predicted consumer prices would rise seven per cent this year, up from 3.8 per cent in 1983.

Mr. Volcker has said a seven per cent growth rate would be unsustainable over several months.

Analysts have interpreted this statement to mean that the central bank might be forced to slow down growth through a tighter monetary policy.

The influential Wall Street economist Mr. Henry Kaufman upset financial markets recently when he said current growth rates would

raise inflation to seven per cent.

Mr. Kaufman, chief economist with Wall Street's Salomon Brothers, said also that unless the enormous fiscal expansion was checked it would "abort" the present surge sooner than expected.

Many other economists, however, do not think inflation will rise so sharply and predict that current strong U.S. economic growth may decline without prompting the Federal Reserve to curb the expansion.

Mr. Les Alperstein, president of Washington Analysis Corporation, said inflation last year was artificially low.

Mr. Alperstein said a natural inflation rate of five to six per cent, reflecting the uncertainty of food and energy prices, was likely this year and was no cause for alarm.

Mr. Allen Sinai, chief economist at Lehman Brothers Kuhn Loeb, dismissed concern that rapid economic growth would continue and lead to surging inflation.

"The power of the fiscal stimulus is fading," Mr. Sinai said, noting that the last of President Reagan's three-year tax cuts took effect almost a year ago.

Thus strong consumer demand, one of the driving forces behind American economic growth,

would begin to abate, he said. Mr. Sinai said also that the impact of a Fed squeeze on credit last year would be taking effect now.

Furthermore, the impact of business tax incentives, introduced by Mr. Reagan three years ago, might have run its course, he added.

Mr. Donald Ratajczak, an eco-

nomist with Georgia State University, said that a very rapid increase in orders for durable manufactured goods reflected a desire by U.S. firms to meet the competition of imports by speeding up delivery times.

The increase, he said, was "a once-and-for-all adjustment."

Most economists agreed that early action by Congress to cut budget deficits, estimated at \$180 billion for each of the next four years, could change America's economic outlook dramatically.

Meanwhile, around 30 per cent of the U.S. budget deficit has been financed by foreign savings over the last two years, Federal Reserve Bank of New York Senior Vice President Roger Kuharch said Tuesday.

He told Wall Street analysts that foreigners now directly held about 13 per cent of U.S. government debt.

He said the U.S. was living off foreigners' savings to the greatest extent this century and that unless the U.S. budget deficit was reduced the United States would become a net debtor country like Brazil or Mexico. Mr. Kuharch said the U.S. government was unable to inflate its way out of the deficit and would have to find other means to reduce the shortfall.

Failure to reduce the deficit would put pressure on domestic financial markets and also the foreign exchange market, he said.

He said the recent fall of the dollar was likely to widen the U.S. trade deficit initially because U.S. exporters took time to adjust to change.

U.S. car industry may boost profits

DETROIT (R) — The U.S. car industry has just reported record profits of \$6.14 billion for 1983, and a continuing sales boom should mean even better profits this year for companies that were losing vast sums only a few years ago.

Wall Street experts expect the "big three" carmakers — General Motors, Ford and Chrysler — to earn after-tax net profits in 1984 of between \$9 and \$10 billion.

Car and truck sales in the first 40 days of the new year have been so much stronger than expected that several Wall Street analysts have raised their estimates for 1984 industry sales and company earnings.

Analysts and company executives interviewed by Reuters said the major factors behind the car-buying spree were general economic recovery and a rise in consumer optimism.

Sales of U.S.-made and imported cars are expected to reach 10.5 million this year, well above the 9.2 million sold in 1983 and the recession sales of eight million in 1982 although still lower than the record 11.4 million sold in 1973.

It was in 1973 that carbuyers first began to feel the effects of the initial oil-price shock which changed the face of the U.S. car industry.

The industry has been able to reach a state of soaring profitability after its 1979-82 slump by a variety of means, most visibly through layoffs of tens of thousands of workers.

Analysts say the U.S. industry can build as many cars today as it did in comparable years of the 1970s with about 30 per cent fewer workers.

The industry employs 510,000 hourly-paid workers today compared with 735,000 in 1978, the peak employment year.

The carmakers have also won wage concessions from the United Auto Workers Union, whose members still in jobs and not made redundant were given profit-sharing schemes as part of the bargaining.

Other factors cited for the soaring profits were higher car prices — largely due to the elimination of cash rebates and other sales incentives — and the absence of greater price competition due to continued restraints on Japanese imports.

Production volume has also risen sharply to meet increased demand.

Car output in 1983 was 33 per

cent higher than in the previous year and industry executives say production schedules for the first quarter of 1984 should be more than 40 per cent up on the first three months of 1983.

Another important contribution to profits has come from a "richer product-mix", analysts say.

U.S. carbuyers have been moving towards larger, more luxurious and expensive models, which are much more profitable than small cars with few options added.

"The mix was richer in 1983 than it would have been if gasoline (Petrol) prices were more of a problem than they were," said Mr. Gary Glaser, an industry analyst for the Wall Street investment firm of Sanford C. Bernstein and Company.

A combination of all these factors helped raise the net earnings of America's motor companies by more than \$5.8 billion from their 1982 total of \$320 million.

General Motors raised its profits to \$3.72 billion from \$962 million. Ford transformed a 1982 loss of \$158 million into profits.

U.S. agency to block Warner, Polygram deal

WASHINGTON (R) — The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) said Tuesday it would block a proposed joint venture of Warner Communications Inc. and Polygram Records Inc. to merge their record and tape businesses in the United States. The FTC, which enforces anti-monopoly laws, said the merger might substantially lessen competition. It said the joint venture would make Warner-Polygram the largest record and tape distributor in the U.S. and in the world.

Warner said later it planned to contest in court the FTC decision and believed its view on the joint venture would be sustained. Warner is the second largest U.S. record distributor. Polygram, jointly owned by Philips N.V. of the Netherlands and Siemens A.G. of West Germany, ranks sixth. The FTC voted 4-1 to seek a court injunction to block the merger. Chairman James Miller was the dissenter.

China increases Hong Kong investments

HONG KONG (R) — China is trying to allay business fears over the return of the British colony to Chinese control in 1997 by mounting confidence-boosting forays into the Hong Kong property market.

Peking-controlled firms have invested 2.7 billion Hong Kong dollars (\$346 million) in acquiring prime land at the edge of Hong Kong's central business district.

The purchases come at a time when the colony's property market has been depressed because of business fears over the future of Hong Kong after 1997.

One of the purchases will contain a new 70-storey local headquarters of the Bank of China, which will be one of the tallest buildings in the colony.

The other will contain twin towers, 50 storeys high including a hotel and an office complex.

Mr. Jimmy McGregor, director of the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce, said that

China's investment has both economic and political motives.

Economically, he said, it is a result of the rapid expansion of trade between China and Hong Kong over the last five years and reflects the fact that property has become cheaper to buy than to rent.

Mr. McGregor estimated property owned by Peking firms and associated companies here at several billion U.S. dollars, with China's business network here larger than that of any other country. He said the political motive was to demonstrate that the capitalist system will be maintained.

The present investment is an acceleration of a policy adopted five years ago when China decided to step up investment in banking, retailing, property and other business sectors here. The Bank of China and its 13 sister banks from the second largest bank group here after the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 8, 1984

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: If you do not act hastily in relation to your money and your practical interests you will be able to make headway towards an intelligent course of action. Discuss problems objectively.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Concentrate on how best to use your energies so that you become more successful in property affairs. Drive carefully.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Do something about improving your appearance so that you can be more successful in dealing with others. Be social in the evening.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Study the situation in the outside world and then plan your right course of action. You may feel like criticising your mate, but be gentle.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) You have to use tact in going after your personal aims since forcefulness would gain you nothing. You fail to get an invitation, but keep calm.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) You can't improve your image if you are forceful in work matters; tact can be very helpful. Give more support to bigwigs.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Get into the details of any venture you want to promote, since they are important. New contacts can be helpful. Take it easy tonight.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Important that you handle business affairs well and forget the personal for awhile. Show that you have your feet firmly planted on the ground.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) An associate is just as stubborn as you, and you could find it hard to reach an agreement today. An outside affair can teach you a good lesson.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Even if you are in a hurry to get to more interesting activities, be sure you do your regular work well. Be tactful.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) It's all right to seek amusement provided you do not neglect important work that has to be done. Don't rush anything.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Take care you do nothing that could spoil present set-up and minimize well being. Try to soothe an upset family tie.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Your regular allies may think you do not approve of their ideas, so convince them of the contrary. Take care you do not drive too fast.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be one who will be very practical but will also possess a fine artistic nature which can make every project work like a charm. There is much compassion in this nature and a humanitarian type of profession would be best.

"The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!
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FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, MARCH 9, 1984

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Although you are mentally alive, alert and awake now, you still need to keep in mind that there are confusing conditions about you and you need to keep very much on your toes.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Be most careful in handling communications since the wrong word or figure could mean loss. Hit on the most sensible course of action.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Some monetary situation does not seem to be on the up and up. Don't be jealous with the one you love, or you lose the upper hand.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Before dashing out on some personal pursuit, know what you really want. Don't get dragged into something you don't approve of.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Do not divulge anything confidential, or you can get into trouble. Avoid a confrontation with your loved one. LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) You may not feel right about some interest in which a friend is trying to get you involved. Steer clear of an argument.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Find more efficient methods of operating for greater income. Not a good day to seek support from a bigwig.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You have fine ideas but they need further study before you can put them into operation. New contacts may seem superficial.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Go over any questions about some account before doing anything. Your mate may be working some trick to get own way.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) A partner, who is trying to make a contract with you, has the upper hand, so be careful.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Be sure of the work you have assigned to you. A fellow worker has a plan that is full of holes, so forget it.

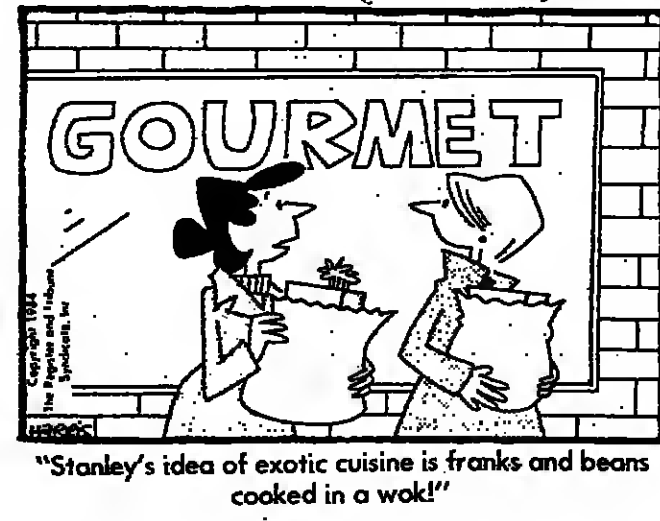
AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You feel that some amusement will relieve you from worries, but it could cost you more than you think.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Don't take anything for granted at home. Be sure of where you stand with kin. Demonstrate poise and charm with guests.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be one who will want to study everything twice or more to be sure that there are no flaws in it before buying. The nature is very idealistic and should have the benefit of courses in ethics and practical matters.

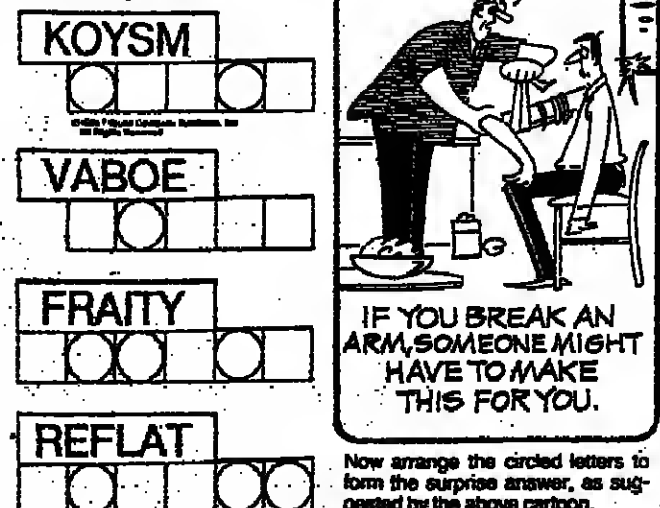
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THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Answer: THE "C O O K I E S" (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: BUXOM ELUDE RARITY CATCHY
Answer: This is a way-out part of the museum — THE EXIT

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp

